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4
TA emerges from the garbage



11 Weekender
Nadia Matar's favorite books



20 Sports
Juventus beat United

INDEX

Business	15
Food	12
Movies, TV, Crossword	19
Opinion	10
Weekender	11
Sports	20

'Foreign Report': Israel spies on Syria from Turkey Turkey leaves Islamic summit amid Israel-ties row

By DOUGLAS DAVIS and news agencies

Turkey's President Suleyman Demirel withdrew from a global Islamic summit in Tehran to avoid facing additional criticism of his country's ties with Israel.

The three-day Organization of the Islamic Conference summit is due to end tomorrow with the leaders of Muslim nations issuing several resolutions, including one that criticizes Muslim countries' military relations with Israel.

Demirel defended his country's military accords with Israel, saying the agreement is bilateral and doesn't pose a threat to any third country.

Demirel was due to leave Tehran Wednesday evening, Turkish officials told The Associated Press. They did not want to be identified further.

In Ankara, the presidential palace confirmed Demirel was returning a day earlier, but gave no reason.

The three-day summit of the Organization of the Islamic

Conference will end today (Thursday) with a closing session where leaders from Muslim nations will issue several resolutions, including one that criticizes Muslim countries' military ties with Israel.

Demirel himself did not say when he would leave. But he defended his country's military ties with Israel, saying their cooperation "is a bilateral agreement and doesn't pose a danger for any third country."

"Israel and Turkey have a military agreement, and this agreement will continue,"

Demirel told the AP.

OIC spokesman Mohammed Javad Zarif also would not confirm that Demirel will leave early, but he said an early departure should not be misconstrued.

"I believe that heads of state have their own schedules and make time for various engagements. And I think it should be seen in that light," Zarif told reporters.

Still, Demirel's actions highlight the divisions facing the OIC, a diverse group of 55 nations from Indonesia to Algeria, who are

bound only by a common faith.

Meanwhile, the London-based Foreign Report newsletter reports in its last issue that Israel is engaged in three main activities in Turkey: preparing for possible air attacks against Iranian nuclear facilities, recruiting Syrian spies, and eavesdropping on military activities in northern Syria.

The newsletter, to be published today, asserts that Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's visit to Ankara this week was aimed at consolidating ties with Turkey.

It says the Israel Air Force has conducted flights in Turkish airspace up to the border with Iran since a military cooperation agreement was signed two years ago.

The agreement says that Israel can keep eight aircraft permanently on Turkish soil in return for an equal number of Turkish planes at an airfield in southern Israel.

According to the newsletter, Israel wants access to the Turkish air base for F-15s and the latest F-16s which might be used against Iranian nuclear installations.

However, Israel's main activity

in Turkey, it said, has to do with Syria.

Turkey's population includes a large number of Alawites, some of whom have close ties with Alawites among Syria's ruling elite. "The Mossad hopes to profit from the connection to create a network of spies," the newsletter says.

According to the newsletter, the single, unmistakable Israeli success in Turkey has been its military-intelligence monitoring unit.

See TURKEY, Page 2

AGENDA

The IDF and Assad

IDF Intelligence is now preparing its annual assessment. In the next few days, it will be discussed by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, and next month it will be submitted to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the security cabinet.

This is the first time there will be no consultation from Yehuda Gil, either in the preparation of the central theory regarding trends in the Syrian army or regarding what the press has termed "Hafez Assad's intentions."

On his own terms

According to security sources, the assessment will inform us that the likelihood of war with Syria has declined this year. Assad is prepared to move toward peace and wants to renew talks so as to end his isolation from the West - but on his terms. This means renewing talks from the point at which they were broken off in March 1996, and a renewal of Israel's undertaking to return to the June 4, 1967 borders.

IDF Intelligence also believes the Syrian army is in trouble, suffering from a shortage of modern equipment and spare parts. This although the Syrians have considerably improved their missile power, their stocks of chemical weapons, and primarily their ability to manufacture their own weapons.

It should be stressed that these are initial conclusions prepared by researchers, and have not been discussed by the General Staff or consolidated for a final evaluation.

Tomorrow afternoon, US Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk will arrive here. This will be the former ambassador's first visit in his new post, and it will be a reconnaissance trip to familiarize him with the new issues for which he is responsible in Damascus and Beirut.

Preliminary intelligence assessments will be included in the briefings for Netanyahu and Mordechai in preparation for Indyk's visit, even though they have not been completed, as they are essential for the discussion expected to take place.

Israelis would describe Indyk as an activist. In more diplomatic terms, he would be termed an active American diplomat. He is not paying a social call. He wants to leave his mark.

See AGENDA, Page 8

Knesset passes PA census law

By LIAT COLLINS

The government yesterday rushed through the Knesset an amendment to the law on the implementation of the Oslo Accords aimed at preventing the Palestinian Authority from taking a census in Jerusalem.

The amendment passed its third and final reading of the day close to midnight, by a vote of 26-11.

PA census-takers canvas West Bank, Gaza, Page 2

This followed a relatively close first reading of 35-22, which could be attributed to the fact that the Arab parties initially turned the vote into a no-confidence motion, and the government turned it back into a motion of confidence in the prime minister, which Labor MKs said they could not support, despite an earlier decision.

Only 10 Labor MKs were present for the first vote. Neither Labor Party leader Ehud Barak nor Shimon Peres participated. By the second and third readings, a majority of MKs had gone home.

The original legislation prevents the PA "from opening or operating offices or holding meetings within the State of Israel," while the new version broadens this ban to include "activities."

After an early morning phone vote to get cabinet approval for the bill, Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi activated all the necessary Knesset bodies - including the presidium, the House Committee, and the Law Committee - to ensure the bill would be introduced and passed in one day.

Most of the debate was quiet,



A Palestinian family of 25 is counted by a Palestinian Authority census taker in Gaza yesterday. (AP)

with just a few MKs present.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who was lightly heckled by Taleb a-Sansa (Democratic Arab Party), kept to a brief state-

ment on the general consensus on the importance of the unity of Jerusalem as Israel's eternal capital.

"I believe that as long as

Jerusalem is united, our people will be united. And I call on all of us - all parts of the people represented here - to support the bill on the implementation of the interim

agreement banning all activity of a political or similar nature which is not in keeping with honoring Israel's sovereignty in Jerusalem," he said.

PM, Arafat to meet next week in London

By JAY BUSHINSKY and NELLE KUTTLER

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat are set to meet in London next Thursday within 24 hours of their



Foreign Minister David Levy (left) and PA deputy chairman Mahmoud Abbas leave after meeting in Jerusalem yesterday. (Yitzhak Eliazar/Scoop 80)

Oradiah Yosef hacks the second pullback, Page 2 PA loses UN upgrade vote, Page 3

planned separate meetings with US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in Paris and Geneva.

A Foreign Ministry official in Jerusalem said the summit would take place, but allowed for the possibility of a last-minute change in venue and date.

Meanwhile, if Israel does not propose a wide enough redeployment, US credibility in the peace process could be at stake, a senior Clinton administration official

Jerusalem declare support for a Palestinian state unless the next redeployment offer is sufficient.

In an interview with Israel Radio, US special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross said he believes that Netanyahu intends to carry out a reasonable redeployment.

"We believe that what we're engaged in now is a serious process, and obviously we're interested not only in a serious process but a serious outcome. And as the secretary has made clear publicly, she's the kind of person who would make it clear if what was going on wasn't serious - and she considers what's going on right now to be serious," Ross said.

"The prime minister's made it very clear that he and his cabinet have made a decision in principle to do a further redeployment, and the approach that they're taking - certainly the approach they're taking with us - indicates that they're serious about following through with this... The prime minister's made it very clear to us that he is very seriously pursuing this, and we take him at his word."

See PM, Page 2

What if mom is Orthodox and dad is Christian?

By MARILYN HENRY

In a custody case that pitted an Orthodox mother against a fundamentalist Christian father, a Massachusetts court has ruled that divorced parents of different faiths can be prohibited from teaching their religious beliefs to their children if it would harm them.

The three children of Barbara and Jeffrey Kendall, who are being raised as Orthodox Jews, experienced emotional distress because the father's religion teaches them that to be "saved" they must accept Jesus Christ, the mother's lawyer, David Cherny, argued.

"These teachings contradict their Jewish ethnicity, force them to regard their mother as someone doomed to hell, and place them in the unenviable position of having to regard choosing between religions as choosing between parents," said Cherny.

In a unanimous ruling, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court on Tuesday agreed. It barred the father from taking his

children - 4, 6, and 9 - to services at the fundamentalist Boston Church of Christ or enrolling them in Sunday school.

Freedom of religion is an essential right in the U.S., but the court ruled that a parent's right to religious expression is secondary to the "best interests of the children."

Kendall was nominally a Catholic in 1983, when he married Barbara Zeitler, a Reform Jew, in a Jewish ceremony. Three years later, he joined the fundamentalist church. In 1994, Barbara Kendall became Orthodox. Their religious differences led to the divorce.

"You can't believe in Jesus on Sunday and in Moses on Saturday. It's too confusing," Sanford Katz, a Boston College Law School professor specializing in family law, told *The Boston Globe*. "Kids need stability. The home environment is not stable if you are seriously going to expect them to believe in two religions."

See MOM, Page 2

NEWS

in brief

Jew in line for Swiss presidency

Foreign Minister Flavio Cotti was elected yesterday by parliament to a one-year term as Swiss president in 1998. Interior Minister Ruth Dreifuss was elected vice president of the confederation, which puts her in line to become the first Jewish president in 1999. The rotating post is largely ceremonial. *Marilyn Henry*

Eitan responds to reports he met Hussein

"There's nothing to discuss about Jerusalem," Science Minister Michael Eitan said yesterday in response to reports he discussed the subject with Palestinian Authority Jerusalem Affairs Minister Faisal Hussein. "Jerusalem's future is under Israeli sovereignty and it will be one city. Every Israeli, especially Zionists and members of the National Camp, has no doubt about this."

Eitan did not comment on whether he met with Hussein. If Eitan did have contact with Hussein, this was done without cabinet authorization, Shai Bazak, the prime minister's spokesman, said. *Jim*

Gov't denies Har Homa freeze

The government denied emphatically yesterday that any political freeze has been placed on building on Har Homa, and said that tenders for construction at the site will be offered in the first quarter of 1998. "There is no pressure, there are no demands, no requests from the Prime Minister's Office to stop or to prevent the building at Har Homa," said Moshe Eilat, spokesman for the Construction and Housing Ministry. *Elli Wohlgeheimer*

Palestinian jailed for collaborator killings

A military court yesterday sentenced Jawad Darali to life imprisonment for the killing of 10 Palestinians he suspected of collaborating with Israel, the army said.

Prosecutors said that Darali, from a village near the West Bank town of Ramallah, shot eight of his victims and ordered others to carry out the other two attacks. He was arrested during an identity check a year ago, and investigators discovered he had been behind the 10 killings in the spring and summer of 1994, the army said in a statement. *Reuters*

Civil Administration head meets Hebron mayor

Civil Administration head Brig.-Gen. David Shahar met with Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natshe yesterday to discuss lifting further restrictions on Shuhada Street in Hebron. Palestinians complained that administration officials had told them the road would be open to all traffic and the current situation is damaging to the city's economy.

On October 29, the road was opened to Palestinian municipal and emergency vehicles; at the time Israeli officials said they would ease restrictions gradually based on the situation in the city. Shahar and Natshe also discussed reopening the vegetable market close to the Avraham Avinu Quarter and the restoration and renovation of the casbah area. *Margot Dudkevitch*

Graves suspected under Western Wall plaza

According to archaeologist Ya'acov Billig, there could be graves beneath the Western Wall plaza, the Antiquities Authority said yesterday. Billig and a colleague, Roni Reich, are to discuss the theory at a conference about research on Jerusalem being held today at Bar-Ilan University.

Billig believes that a burial ground with 30 skeletons found at the southwestern corner of the Temple Mount about two years ago, could stretch as far as the Wall's plaza. If this is true, it would reinforce a theory that the Wall only became a Jewish place of worship 500-600 years ago. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

German minister: outrage over Nazi scandal just

The German public's outrage over incidents of right-wing extremism in the army is justified, Defense Minister Volker Ruehe said yesterday. He blamed senior officers for poor judgment and "political ignorance."

Speaking in parliament, Ruehe said the officers had made a grave mistake in allowing a convicted neo-Nazi bomber, Manfred Roeder, to speak to the elite military academy in Hamburg in 1995. The blunder has caused a political storm in Bonn and could force the popular Ruehe to resign, some analysts have said. *Reuters*

Ovadia Yosef backs the second pullback

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
and LIAT COLLINS

Shas mentor and leader Rabbi Ovadia Yosef yesterday called on Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to carry out the second pullback according to the agreement with the Palestinians.

In a letter to the prime minister, Yosef urged Netanyahu to "continue in the way of peace and don't be deterred by hardships, either from without or within."

"I just heard from our representatives a report on the government's plans regarding the second pullback. I think it's extremely important to deepen the peace and proceed forwards. I hope soon we shall hear of the signing of the agreement," Yosef wrote.

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi responded that "we have already announced we will keep our commitments only on condition that the Palestinians keep all their commitments in the agreement." Hanegbi, who was interviewed on Channel 1's *A New Evening*, told host Dan Margalit: "I suggest you ask Rabbi Yosef if Jewish blood is to be shed freely and if Palestinian terrorists should go around free and even be promoted."

Yosef's letter followed his

remark on Tuesday describing Netanyahu's government as "a deaf ear." A few weeks ago he compared Netanyahu to a "blind goat."

Yosef, who spoke at a rare meeting with Labor and Meretz MKs, was asked by Dalia Itzik (Labor) why he doesn't express his opinion on the deteriorating peace process, as he used to do during the administrations of Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres.

Yosef replied that "when there is an attentive ear, I speak. When there is a deaf ear, I keep quiet." Shas MKs reacted angrily to former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir's dismissive comments about Yosef, on Channel 1's *Conference Call* last night.

Meanwhile, National Religious Party whip Hanan Porat met with key ministers to try to persuade them against voting for a further pullback until the Palestinian Authority hands over wanted terror suspects, disarms Hamas, and abolishes the Palestinian Covenant.

The NRP, with two ministers, believes it unlikely that a decision on redeployment will be made at Sunday's session. The party also wants the government to set policy in advance of permanent-status talks on the issues of refugees and the status of Jerusalem.

FRIEDA SKLAN

sister of the late Bernard Cherrick
died on December 9, 1997,
after a prolonged illness.
Burial was on the Mount of Olives.

PA census-takers carpet territories

By ELLI WOHLGEHEIMER,
STEVE RODAN
and MOHAMMED NAJIB

About 5,000 field workers started a house-to-house census in the West Bank and Gaza Strip yesterday, the first to be conducted by the Palestinian Authority, while the Knesset met late into the night to try and outlast plans to include Jerusalem in the survey.

Police spread out throughout east Jerusalem and the Old City on the lookout for census-takers. They arrested one 23-year-old Arab woman who visited several homes carrying census papers. Later she was released.

Dressed in blue uniforms, the census takers braved rain and wind to take down data about residents in towns and villages, their property and businesses. PA officials said the storms slowed the pace of the census but

that people were cooperative.

The census, funded by several Western governments including Britain and Switzerland, is scheduled to take two weeks. Results will be published next month.

The PA has invested much effort in the population count, and PA chief Yasser Arafat has appealed to Palestinians to answer questions from field workers.

Hassan Abu Libdeh, head of the PA Central Bureau of Statistics, said census-takers encountered police resistance in Jerusalem. "The operation has been excellent on the first day despite Israeli attempts to obstruct this," he said.

"People are very excited about it, and very happy," Abu Libdeh said. Faisal Hussein, the PA minister responsible for Jerusalem, said Israel was unjustified in trying to prevent a census in Jerusalem. He said that the international

community regarded Jerusalem as occupied, and that east Jerusalem should be regarded as Palestinian territory.

"Israel has police control... not sovereignty in east Jerusalem," Hussein said. He accused Israel of using "repression to try to prevent the Palestinians of this city from implementing their rights including the census."

PA officials dismissed Israel's attempts to outlast the census in Jerusalem. "Who recognizes this law?" said Palestinian Legislative Council speaker Ahmed Qurei. "Nobody recognizes this."

The left-wing group Gush Shalom offered to help the PA carry out the census. In a statement, it said that the government's "panic" over the survey and attempt to outlast it "will only find its place in the trash can of history."

PA sources were confident that the census could be completed in Jerusalem and that Palestinians in the city could complete their

forms despite police objections, and even send them in by fax.

While the Knesset debated the issue, left-wing MKs met throughout the day with PA and government officials in search of a compromise.

Before meeting with Palestinians at the American Colony Hotel last night, MK Dedi Zucker (Meretz) told reporters a formula was being sought to have the census done "by a private agency and not the Palestinian Authority, and that's a good solution to the issue."

Zucker also said he would tell the Palestinians "that a census done by the Authority (in Jerusalem) is a violation of the agreement between them and Israel."

Zucker said he was pessimistic that the government would agree to the compromise. He said, "I am afraid that the Israeli government is looking for a fight rather than for a solution."

Labor split on PA census bill

By LIAT COLLINS

The issue of how the public perceives its stand on the unity of Jerusalem split the Labor Knesset faction yesterday, when it met to decide how to vote on the bill which would stop the Palestinian Authority from carrying out its census in the city. Labor MKs also differed on their role as possible mediators between the government and the Palestinians.

After heated discussions, the MKs decided by a vote of 16-8 to support the government's bill. Shimon Peres and Dalia Itzik abstained.

The debate was marked by strong differences of opinion between Peres and party leader Ehud Barak. Peres, developing a line suggested by Yossi Beilin,

proposed that Barak call Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and tell him to call the Palestinians to ask them to transfer the census-taking in Jerusalem to a neutral, academic body instead of doing it under Palestinian Authority auspices. Peres said the timing of the law is wrong because of the Islamic conference in Teheran.

"We have reason to believe the Palestinians would be willing to drop the matter," said Peres. "It would be better to drop it by agreement and not by legislation."

His comments followed a phone call by Beilin to Saeb Erekat who apparently agreed that the census be carried out by a neutral group.

Barak disagreed. "Peres and Beilin should know better than anyone that if we suggest the prime minister calls Erekat, they

will say we are trying to act behind their backs. I don't think we should become the mediators between the elected government and the Palestinians," he said. "There is a prime minister, there are negotiations, and there are open channels of communications with the Palestinians. Erekat knows the number of the phone he could call and vice versa."

"We must conduct a dialogue with the Palestinians, but we don't have to represent them or their interests," said Barak. "We have to demand from the Palestinians that they too respect agreements."

He said the bill was hastily drawn up "in an amateurish way" and the government would not be able to enforce the law if it passes. "Netanyahu is weakening Jerusalem through political pos-

tering," Barak said.

But he said Labor had to support the bill because it also objects to the PA's violations of the agreements and its "creeping into Jerusalem."

When Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani stopped by the room, Peres pleaded with him to persuade the government to drop the bill from the agenda.

Elsewhere, Moledet leader Rehavam Ze'evi complained about the way the legislation was hastily drawn up and presented after the census had begun. He supported the bill, however.

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid criticized Labor's decision to support the bill. "If the bill is Cheloni-like and hysterical as Barak said, those who support it also suffer from Cheloniism and hysteria," Sarid said.



Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat salutes the shrine of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini near Teheran yesterday, where he is attending the Eighth Islamic Conference. (Reuters)

TURKEY

Continued from Page 1

"For many years, Israel has had trouble eavesdropping on the Syrian army in the north," it noted. "In the past two years, Turkey has allowed it to build monitoring stations in the mountains close to the Syrian border."

"Now Israel can keep a close eye on military air traffic in northern Syria and, even more importantly, monitor electronic

communications for Scud missile brigades in northern Syria..." In a related development, the Arabic-language media has been dominated by a chorus of fury over Turkey's conspicuously warm welcome for Mordechai and Ankara's perceived flaunting of a strategic partnership with Israel as the Islamic Conference Organization (ICO) was convening in Teheran.

The sense of outrage was heightened by the fact that ICO foreign ministers, who met last weekend to draft the summit's

resolutions, deliberately toned down criticism of Turkey's ties with Israel and its military presence in Iraq to avoid alienating Ankara.

Turkish Defense Minister Ismet Sezgin was the object of particular anger for declaring that Turkey would ignore any summit resolution regarding its ties with Israel.

Arab papers expect Turkish President Suleyman Demirel to face a hostile reception at the conference over Turkey's relations with Israel and its military

incursions against Kurdish terrorists in northern Iraq.

One senior commentator, Abdelwahab Badrakhan, suggested in the Saudi-owned *al-Hayat*, that the ICO consider excluding Turkey.

"Given that Turkey adopts the views of its ally, it has become possible to ask whether Israel is represented at the Teheran summit via Turkey," he wrote. "That being the case, can the Islamic leaders feel comfortable with Turkey's participation at the summit?"

CENSUS

Continued from Page 1

The plenum debate was preceded by lengthy discussions in the House Committee, which had to decide to waive the rule that a bill be submitted 48 hours before a vote. Eleven coalition MKs and Rafi Elul (Labor) voted in favor of the bill being raised:

PM

Continued from Page 1

The planned talks with Albright seem to signal an acceleration of diplomatic activity. This could be seen in the proposal made by the PA's deputy chairman, Mahmoud Abbas at a meeting with Foreign Minister David Levy yesterday that four joint committees dealing with the peace process hold marathon sessions to try and reach agreements by next Wednesday.

Another sign of stepped-up diplomacy was in the scheduled arrival of Assistant Secretary of State for Middle Eastern Affairs Martin Indyk tomorrow to confer with Netanyahu.

Levy, and other senior officials before proceeding to Damascus.

Indyk is expected to urge Netanyahu to increase the percentage of West Bank territory to be evacuated by the IDF in the projected second pullback. The US reportedly advocates evacuation of at least 12 percent as against the government's preference for 6 to 8%.

A further sign of the heightened diplomatic flurry was an Israel Radio report late last night that security forces were on high alert today for warnings of possible attacks in the territories.

The committees referred to in the Abbas proposal have been negotiating safe passage between the West Bank and Gaza Strip, a

prevented from flying their flag in Jerusalem. The coalition MKs did not want to support the clause, which could cause further strain with the Palestinians, but could not afford to be seen opposing it.

Batsheva Tsor adds: President Ezer Weizman yesterday came out against the census, saying it is "not legitimate." He also called on both sides to refrain

from steps which deviate from the Oslo Accords.

"The census is not legitimate, since both sides are aware that the status must not be changed," Weizman said. "It is a complicated issue... [but the census] has to be prevented. In the long run, the matter will have to be dealt with in the framework of the final-status agreement and that is not far off."

"I hope the efforts of the Israeli government will bear fruit," Abbas, who is popularly known as Abu Mazen, said. "We have an opportunity to upgrade our relations, strengthen the peace process, and reach the hoped-for goal."

Census law seals a loophole

BACKGROUND

The government's speedy move Tuesday night to submit a Knesset bill yesterday to block a Palestinian Authority census in Jerusalem followed an opinion from Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein, who said there are loopholes in the law that could prevent enforcing a census ban.

The law, known officially as the Gaza/Jericho Agreement Implementation Law (Limiting of Activities) was passed by the Knesset in December 1994. Known informally as the "Orient House Law," it aimed at putting a stop to heightened Palestinian Authority activity at Orient House and the establishment of PA institutions in eastern Jerusalem.

It restricts PA activity to Gaza and Jericho and bars any PLO or PA activity "of a political or governmental nature... which does not coincide with respect for Israel's sovereignty" in Israel without government permission. Then prime minister Yitzhak Rabin repeatedly said he could not deal with increased PLO activity in Jerusalem without the legislation.

But the law did not cover all eventualities, Rubinstein opined. While it could prevent the holding of PA "meetings" in sovereign Israeli areas, it could not restrict the PA from holding a census.

A ministerial committee headed by Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi convened urgently Tuesday night to prepare an amendment that would enable the police to prevent a PA census in Jerusalem.

The new language of the law would make it possible to ensure that the PA and the PLO live up to their commitments under the Interim Agreement and international law forbidding political activity that would violate Israeli sovereignty - unless it received Israel's agreement, the Justice Ministry spokesman explained.

The ministers approved the draft amendment by phone yesterday morning, since there was no time to convene the cabinet. Yesterday's legislative process did not set a precedent, the spokesman said, noting a similar procedure had been followed in 1981 with regard to the Golan Heights Law.

MOM

Continued from Page 1

A Family Court judge previously had ruled that Jeffrey Kendall had fostered "negative and distorted images of the Jewish culture," objected to his children learning about the Holocaust, and tried to impose his faith on them, the Globe reported.

The father's lawyer, Michael Greco, said he may appeal to the Supreme Court, which might see this as a case of religious freedom, not child custody.

Jeffrey Kendall was "not trying to convert them to Christianity or to prevent them from developing Jewish identities," Greco said. "He wanted the opportunity to instill important moral values at an early age. He's been deprived of that opportunity."

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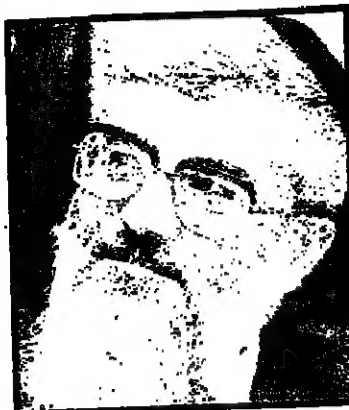
Pinhasi pleads guilty to conspiracy charges

Shas MK Rafael Pinhasi yesterday pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges and making a false declaration to the state comptroller regarding violations of the Party Funding Law in the 1988 Knesset elections and the local authorities elections in 1989.

Pinhasi's admission in Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court was part of a plea bargain, according to which additional charges of keeping false corporate records, attempted fraud, and conspiring to commit a crime were dropped.

The prosecution asked Judge Amiram Binyamini to sentence Pinhasi to a suspended prison term and fine him NIS 20,000. Sentence is to be handed down on Tuesday.

Pinhasi, 57, who served as Shas treasurer and chairman of the party's finance committee, was charged with knowingly signing a false declaration he submitted to the state comptroller, with the intention to deceive. The statement intentionally omitted cash payments by Shas to yeshiva students employed in the party's elec-



Shas MK Rafael Pinhasi (Israel Sun)

tion campaigns. Such payments were illegal, since the students had military deferments for full-time religious study and were not allowed to work. Pinhasi's fraud aimed to prevent their being drafted.

At the end of yesterday's hearing, Pinhasi said he admitted having made a mistake. "Ten years ago, that was the norm of the period," he said. "In the meantime,

we've become more sophisticated and the parties have become more careful. And, of course, we've paid a heavy price."

The High Court of Justice ordered Pinhasi fired from his post as deputy religious affairs minister in 1993. His attorney pointed out that Pinhasi, who immigrated from Afghanistan as a child, had also served as deputy minister of finance, labor and social affairs, and communications. As a result of his indictment, he also lost the mayoralty of Bnei Brak.

"It was done in error," Pinhasi told the court. "Not a penny went into our private pocket and there was no personal gain."

Two other Shas functionaries were found guilty with Pinhasi. Yehzekel Ashayak, a former party secretary, was charged with the same crimes and the prosecution asked for a suspended sentence and a NIS 17,500 fine. The prosecution asked that Shmuel David, a Shas activist charged with conspiracy and abetting a false declaration, be sentenced to a term of public service. (Itim)



Arab culture week

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert cuts the ribbon at the opening of Arab Book and Culture Week yesterday at Jerusalem's Ambassador Hotel, as Palestinian authors Nasser Nashashibi (center) and Dr. Farouk Muassi look on. (Brian Henderson)

Palestinians lose UN upgrade vote

Gold: PA can't take 3rd world for granted

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK — After a run of victories in the General Assembly, the Palestinians were rebuffed at the UN in their bid for greater stature at the world organization.

A resolution that would have upgraded Palestinian status at the UN from observer to nearly a full member, was withdrawn Tuesday after a fust over a European Union proposal to defer the action.

"For the first time in many years in the General Assembly, Israel was not left alone with the United States and Micronesia," said Dore Gold, Israel's UN ambassador, referring to a tradition of overwhelming votes against Israel.

"The automatic majorities of Third World countries can no longer be taken for granted by the Palestinians," Gold added.

The proposed resolution would have given the Palestinians, who have had observer status since 1974, a more elevated position than Switzerland or the Vatican. The proposal would have conferred on the PLO, "in its capacity as observer, similar rights and privileges of participation as those conferred upon member states, with the exception of voting and candidature."

The European Union opposed the

status change, noting that the UN charter confers membership only on sovereign states. The 15 EU members proposed an amendment to defer a decision, while the UN secretary general would conduct a "review (of) whether the rights currently enjoyed by Palestine are adequate to ensure its proper participation in the work of the General Assembly" and other UN bodies.

Yemen's ambassador, Abdalla al-Ashtal, argued that the EU proposal was not a proper amendment and called it "the complete antithesis" of the resolution.

The assembly ended up voting on the Yemeni question of whether the European proposal was an amendment or a resolution. With 65 votes against the Yemeni position, Egyptian Ambassador Nabil Elaraby withdrew the proposed upgrade of PLO status.

Nasser Kidwa, the PLO observer, said he was confident that "through future consultations, we will be able to overcome the difficulties and realize a wide support for that resolution, which we hope we will be able to present to you once again in the future."

The vote on PLO status, which was part of a package linked to the UN's annual debate on the "question of Palestine," was postponed for a week.

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HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

Arab summit

The three-day international convention of Islamic countries in Tehran has exposed disagreements among Iranian leaders, writes David Menashri in *Yedioth Aharonot*.

He is referring to the two main forces influencing Iranian politics: the new, relatively moderate and pro-West President Mohammad Khatami and the more extremist spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

"The main difference between the speech of the spiritual leader and the speech of the president is in their approach towards the West: the main similarity is in their contempt for Israel," he writes.

Ha'aretz's Guy Bechor also addresses the two leaders' speeches.

He says that their archaic approach to Israel emphasizes Iran's relative solitude among Arab countries.

"Iran's absolute opposition towards Israel is viewed in the summit as irrational and attracts no one," he claims, adding that "this exception sheds a different light on the peace process between Israel and the Arab world, emphasizing its necessity and liveliness to the Arab countries and Israel alike."

Ma'ariv's Oded Granot sums up the duality in the Islamic world in relation to Israel in a comment about Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's visit to Turkey as the summit took place.

He states that from the moment the visit began, "there (has been) a demonstration of a firm and vigorous stand to tread two paths: in Tehran Turkish President Demirel embraces the Iranian Khatami, while in Turkey, the Turkish Defense Minister and prime minister offer the Israeli citizen words of friendship."

After 10 years

A decade since the start of the intifada was marked also in the Hebrew press this week, which attempts to draw some conclusions for the future.

"The intifada erupted taking the Israeli government by surprise; until then [the government] believed it had read the map of reality correctly," Ha'aretz editorializes, adding that the uprising paved a clear historical road to the establishment of a Palestinian state.

"In order for the government to avoid having to regret its decisions ten years from now... it should withdraw from the territories."

Writing in *Yedioth*, Emma Elon claims that although in the intifada's aftermath, Israelis have allegedly realized that a Palestinian state will be established, the display of an old Israeli arrogance offers the Palestinians an absurd "toy-state" without an army, resources, or sovereignty.

"The arrogance does not lie in the actual offensive suggestion, but in the delusion that the Palestinians will agree to it," Elon writes, adding that "the Palestinians did not initiate the intifada in order to win a ridiculous dummy-state."

"As the decade marking the start of the intifada falls during the same week as 'International Human Rights Day,' it is inevitable that Israel finds itself in the dock," writes Ma'ariv's Yosef Lapid.

He asserts that a major fact has been overlooked in criticizing Israel's treatment of Palestinians: "the difference is that Palestinian terrorists willfully murdered, while the Israel Defense Forces unintentionally killed Palestinians while attempting to break the uprising."

Garbage collectors back to work in TA

By NICHAL YUDELMAN

Some 1,200 Tel Aviv sanitation workers went back to work yesterday morning and started collecting the city's garbage after two weeks of strike, after an agreement was reached late last night.

For the next few days, 30 garbage trucks will work round the clock, and the workers, who claimed victory, promised that by the end of the week, all the garbage which piled up over 14 days will be removed.

According to the agreement, 100 workers now on personal contract will be put on the collective agreement, no one will be fired, and the department will get new trucks and equipment.

Private contractors will collect garbage in four neighborhoods, Kiryat Shalom and Florentine in the south and Ramat Aviv Gimmel and Azorei Hen in the north, as well as clean up entertainment centers on Shabbat. The sanitation workers, who used to clean the four neighborhoods will be used to collect garbage in other parts of town more frequently than before.

During the two weeks of the strike, many tons of garbage filled the streets and blocked sidewalks and roads, hundreds of garbage bins and containers were set on fire, dozens of sanitation workers were arrested. Charges will be pressed against some of them.

The damage to property cost the city some NIS 2 million, plus the hundreds of thousands of shekels spent on its advertising campaign against the workers.

Someone in City Hall must have



Sanitation workers begin cleaning up Tel Aviv's filthy streets yesterday.

(Yael Somakh/Israel Sun)

missed the morning news and was unaware the strike had ended. Thus, city workers delivered a large garbage bag to every doorstep. Attached to the bag was a letter by Mayor Ronni Milo

requesting that residents place their garbage in the bags and put them "in the designated places, until the contractors start working or until the end of the sanitation workers' strike."

Meir Ronnen contributes: The Beracha Foundation has invited 17 international and Israeli artists to suggest ideas for transforming the Hiriya man-made mountain outside Tel Aviv, soon to

be phased out as a rubbish dump. According to Beracha director Martin Weyl, their suggestions will go on display at a leading Israeli museum. The first group of participants arrived in Israel this week.

Dr. Hochberg's son testifies in mother's murder trial

The 13-year-old son of Dr. Amiram Hochberg, accused of the May 16, 1995 murder of Shlomit Bleichman and her mother, Ida, took the stand for the prosecution in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday, as the evidentiary section of the trial opened.

As the boy refused to talk if he had to look at his father, Hochberg was removed to the hallway, where he could hear the proceedings, but not be seen from the witness stand.

The boy testified in camera, but a protocol of the session was released for publication.

The boy testified about relations in the estranged family, saying he lived with his mother and visited his grandmother every day. He also said his mother had told him that she had

not trusted Hochberg for years, and that he would stalk her and her mother at various times.

In her opening statement, prosecutor Miri Diskin said Hochberg cold-bloodedly planned the double murder. He picked Bleichman up at her home as she was leaving for work, and convinced her to go with him. "All that remains of that meeting, as a silent witness to the murder, is the victim's abandoned car, containing her belongings, her glasses, and her papers, all of them covered in her blood."

She said that on that same day, Hochberg went to Ida Bleichman's apartment and shot her. "The two women, mother and daughter, were strongly bonded together, both in life and in death." (Hina)

Lieberman denies interest in Agency job

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Trying to determine just who Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will back for the post of Jewish Agency chairman became that much more difficult yesterday, when rumors began circulating that Avigdor Lieberman, former director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, might seek the post.

Only a day earlier, there had been reports that Lieberman's departure had made it easier for Netanyahu to agree to support the candidacy of Salim Meridor. Earlier this year, Meridor's candidacy was reported as not to Netanyahu's liking, and he was said to be backing Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee chairman Naomi Blumenthal.

A Likud candidate is scheduled to take over the Jewish Agency as part of a rotation agreement, with elections for a nominee to take

place in two weeks during the upcoming Zionist Congress meetings. However, an agreement which is under consideration by both sides would have the Likud candidate take over from Avraham Burg only in two years.

An agency source said yesterday he believes that Meridor will ultimately be Netanyahu's choice, and Israel Radio reported that Lieberman denied he is considering the job.

Sources close to Lieberman said this week he may seek the position of head of the International Likud, a job currently held by Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo.

Lieberman won a victory on Tuesday when he succeeded in getting the Zionist movement's high court to accept a list of candidates he had presented for the Likud delegation to the Zionist Congress, which included many of his supporters. The move is seen as solidifying his chances of gaining the top spot at International Likud.

'Yediot': MKs rush to spend money

MKs are not so much buying time as spending time buying, according to a story in *Yediot Aharanot*. With the end of the financial year approaching, several MKs reportedly have been busy finishing off the annual budget they received to furnish their home-town offices, mainly by purchasing electric goods such as refrigerators, stereo systems, videos and televisions. The law granting them the budget for the office passed just a few months ago and the allowance cannot be carried over from one year to the next.

But the problem is not just current MKs. A report by the Knesset comptroller discovered that several MKs before the elections, scared they would not get reelected, went on a spending spree. Many of those who failed to return to the House also failed to return the goods or money.

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon said the story was "inaccurate and misleading."

Shalom tells Knesset about Gil affair

Deputy Defense Minister Silvan Shalom said yesterday several teams are being established in the Mossad to study the various aspects of the Yehuda Gil affair and to ensure such a thing cannot happen again.

Shalom was answering several motions to the agenda on the subject. He said the affair was "serious" and could have caused serious harm but for the other intelligence which countered Gil's information.

Harel: Third Way will support redeployment

Following a meeting with council heads from the Jordan Valley yesterday, the Third Way announced it would support the second further redeployment but is concerned by the apparent trend to harm the Jordan Valley, Judean Desert and north Dead Sea area. "We should leave areas densely

populated by Palestinians but the national interest is to preserve Israeli sovereignty in areas with Jewish settlements and unpopulated areas," Third Way whip Yehuda Harel said.

"The Third Way will not accept any damage to these areas," Harel said.

Isomet considering splitting off from Likud

Isomet whip Eliezer Zandberg said yesterday his faction is considering finding a way to split from the Likud and operate on a separate list.

Zandberg was speaking after a meeting between Isomet MKs and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Isomet MKs believe that the Likud is not abiding by its promises to them, such as the appointment of a deputy Knesset speaker from their faction, and is blocking Isomet bills. Zandberg is demanding the government allow him raise a bill calling for the draft of yeshiva students and one which would annex the Jordan Valley.

Zandberg said he had been "disappointed" by the meeting. Netanyahu told the Isomet MKs that he could not support the annexation bill as it is a violation of the Oslo Accords and said he could not allow the draft bill to be raised, as it would break up the coalition.

Yishai writes letter of support to Pollard

Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai yesterday wrote Jonathan Pollard a letter of encouragement in which he assured Pollard, "We will not rest and we will not be quiet until this harsh punishment is ended" and Pollard is released from a US jail, where he has been imprisoned for spying on the US for Israel. Communications Minister Limor Livnat is to give Pollard the letter when she visits him later this month.

Lim contributed to this report

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Cabinet may expand health basket

By JUDY SIEGEL

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday granted Health Minister Yehoshua Matza permission to raise in the cabinet meeting on Sunday his demand for a NIS 150 million Treasury allocation for supplying 14 vital drugs to cancer, AIDS, diabetes and schizophrenia patients.

Matza went to the office of Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman yesterday afternoon to formally present him with an order listing the medications, as required under the National Health Insurance Law. Usually the cabinet only can vote on a request for the inclusion of additional drugs in the basket of health services if the finance minister approves the request.

Neeman did not make any statement after receiving the document. Health Ministry spokesman Dudi Ben-Ami yesterday described as "deception" the Finance Ministry's announcement late Tuesday night that Neeman had agreed to cover the cost of the vital drugs — on condition that the funds be deducted from the health funds' budgets. A Treasury

spokesman said yesterday morning that the cost of the drugs will be covered, "but we will settle accounts with the health funds later." Ben-Ami countered that the health funds cannot absorb the costs of providing the extra drugs.

Meanwhile, Israel Medical Association chairman Dr. Yoram Elachar said at an emergency meeting of doctors at Tel Hashomer's Sheba Hospital yesterday that it was "disappointing and scandalous" that medical matters are decided by Treasury clerks. "Due to Treasury efforts to emasculate the national health insurance system through the arrangements bill," said Elachar, "people are liable to pay with their lives while the Treasury changes the rules of the game." He added that the arrangements bill changes, which would allow the insurers to charge members extra for medical services and shrink the basket of mandatory services, "are not at all sure to reduce the deficits."

The Knesset plenum yesterday passed first reading, 37 to 2, of a private members' bill presented by Labor MK (and former health minister) Ephraim Sneh to give

the Knesset Finance Committee veto power over inclusion of new medications in the basket of health services, and take this power away from the finance minister.

Today, the addition of new medicines to the health basket is decided

upon by the health minister but is conditional on the support of the finance minister and cabinet. Sneh said it is difficult to get additions approved because the Treasury consistently objects to increasing the health budget.

Among the vital medications are Eprex (for cancer patients suffering from anemia resulting from chemotherapy) and Respiroid (for schizophrenics whose condition has not been steadied by other drugs).

Treasury attacks health funds

The health funds' decision to remove cancer and AIDS drugs from the basket of health services is an "incredibly cynical" move, State Budget Director David Milgrom said yesterday.

Milgrom accused some of the funds, led by Kupat Holim Chai, of increasing spending on non-medical activities and then claiming they have no money for life-saving medicines.

Between 1994 and 1996 Chai's expenditure on advertising and marketing increased 96 percent to NIS 51.5 million, while its patient numbers declined 5% to 66% of the market, according to Treasury figures.

"Immediately prior to the discussions of the [state] budget some of the health funds, in particular the largest, stopped supplying medicines to the sickest patients and sent them to the Knesset [to demonstrate]," Milgrom said.

While Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman decid-

ed late Tuesday to force the funds to provide these medicines, the organizations will have to find the sources of funding for them from their own expenditures, Milgrom added.

Milgrom also pointed out that Health Minister Yehoshua Matza has the legal duty to prevent the removal of any medicines from the basket of services if this is detrimental to the public.

The Health Ministry is alone in not facing a cut in its budget in 1998; a total of NIS 2.3 billion will be cut from the other ministries.

Key to the reform of the health funds is allowing for greater flexibility in raising income. The feeling in the Treasury is that greater competition will lead to greater efficiency. However, competition must not be the be-all and end-all and will be carefully monitored.

There is no plan to privatize the health funds nor is there any intention of doing so in the future, Milgrom said.

David Harris

Cabbie protest jams Jerusalem

By HANI SHAPIRO

Jerusalem residents faced massive traffic jams yesterday morning, as intersections were blocked by taxi drivers who said that they intend to cause similar problems in Tel Aviv today and in Haifa tomorrow.

Protesting government plans to lower prices for taxi permits, convoys of cabs slowly made their way down main streets such as Herzog, Jaffa, Herzog, King David, and the Port-Gilgo road. They also blocked traffic on Highway No. 1 and at the entrance to Jerusalem, until police intervened.

The protests caused severe traffic disruptions, making it difficult for Magen David Adom to transport people to hospitals. In response to a request from MDA, the taxi drivers switched their protest from Jerusalem's main roads to the area in front of the Treasury. They blocked the entrance to the Treasury and doused a taxi with fuel and attempted to set it on fire. Police prevented this and towed the taxi from the scene.

According to a government decision, as of January 1, anyone will



Police keep close guard over taxi drivers as they demonstrate in front of the Treasury yesterday.

(Brian Hendler)

be able to acquire a taxi permit for NIS 195,000, a sum that is to be reduced annually by five percent. Drivers who have worked for the holder of a taxi permit for at least four years will be able to acquire their own permit for NIS 135,000.

At present, there are some 12,000 taxis on the road, and the Transport Ministry estimates that about 6,000 non-owner drivers have four years' experience.

According to ministry Director-General Nahum Langelant, the change would provide for thousands of new jobs and help the non-owner drivers, who today have to pay hundreds of dollars every month to the owners. The change, he said, would answer the growing demand for taxis and ease the plight of passengers, who often waste a great deal of time waiting for a taxi.

Avraham Farid, chairman of the Association of Taxi Drivers, said yesterday that the change could result in doubling the number of taxis on the road and would ruin the industry. He said that until now the price of a taxi permit had been \$60,000, a sum which the

government had reduced last year from \$80,000.

Farid said that if the demonstrations this week have no effect, the drivers would consider other measures, including a taxi strike, next week.

Itim contributed to this report.

Secular-rights group to guard firebombed Tiberias home

By HANI SHAPIRO

Following the firebomb attack on the Tiberias home of Kachava Dehan on Tuesday night, Am Hofshi, the organization dedicated to protecting the rights of the secular public, is to pay for a full-time guard at her home.

Dehan is involved in a conflict with a yeshiva established next door to her house by Rabbi Dov Kook, husband of the well-known religious exponent Rabbinit Leah Kook. In the past, Dehan reported that students at the yeshiva, which was established for former criminals and drug addicts, had smashed a glass of coffee into her husband's face and set fire to her car.

Am Hofshi spokeswoman Anat Galili said yesterday that in the face of the apparent unwillingness of the Tiberias police to protect the Dehan family, the organization had decided to take upon itself to protect them. She said that the couple is already sleeping in their living room, rather than use the bedroom, which faces the yeshiva.

Yesterday, Kook told Army Radio that if Dehan is unhappy with the situation, she has the choice of either becoming religious or moving out.

On Shabbat, Am Hofshi plans to bring a group of supporters to the home, as well as to Migdal Ha'emek, where a butcher shop selling non-kosher meat was twice set on fire. Following the arson attacks, the Migdal Ha'emek Local Council passed an ordinance forbidding the sale of non-kosher meat, an action which Am Hofshi plans to challenge in the High Court.

Am Hofshi co-chairman Yosef Paritzky, a Tel Aviv attorney, said that situations almost identical to that faced by the Dehan family exist in Ness Ziona and Pardess Hanna.

Itim adds: The haredi community in Safed has cancelled its Friday night demonstration against a local cafe that is open on Shabbat. The communities rabbis decided that lack of business will force the owner to close, and that demonstrations only give him publicity.

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NEWS

in brief

A-G probes Gil censorship violations

Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein has instructed the police to examine all publications concerning former Mossad agent Yehuda Gil, who is accused of passing on false information. After meeting with State Attorney Edna Arbel, the police, and the censor yesterday, Rubinstein said the investigation aims to determine whether it is necessary to take action following media failure to observe the initial court-ordered news blackout on details of the case. BatSheva Tsour

US teen murder suspect remanded

The Jerusalem District Court yesterday remanded the Maryland teenager accused of a brutal murder until hearings on extraditing him are completed. The US has officially requested that the suspect, who fled to Israel shortly after the September murder, be returned to the US to stand trial. His lawyers, who have pleaded that the teen is an Israeli citizen on the basis of his father's Israeli citizenship, did not oppose the remand request. BatSheva Tsour

Passports to be returned to old immigrants

Some 16,200 Israelis who had a passport or driver's license confiscated when they immigrated between the 1940s and 1960s, will finally get them back, a Jewish Agency spokesman said yesterday.

Many came from Morocco or Tunis and had documents taken at a transit camp in France for unclear reasons. As a result, many were issued identity cards without a proper date of birth, and have consequently had trouble collecting pensions or National Insurance. Missing passports from 47 countries were found in July in an agency warehouse in Tzrifin and a computer program has been devised to help return them to their owners. Aryeh Dean Cohen

Media Committee to coordinate Jubilee

Within the framework of his responsibilities to the Second Authority Law, Education and Sports Minister Zevulun Hammer is seeking to convene a five-member coordinating committee to oversee the activities of the country's public and private broadcast media.

His stated reason for the establishment of such a committee is to rationalize the broadcasting of major Jubilee events "in order to avoid a situation in which the [different channels] would broadcast the same event simultaneously." Helen Kaye

Edelstein: Higher mortgages for immigrants

Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein and Yisrael Ba'aliya MKs Yuri Stern and Roman Brofman yesterday urged Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman to increase mortgages and rental assistance provided to new immigrants in the 1998 budget, or face trouble in passing it. An immigrant family currently receives NIS 97,000 as a mortgage from the government, excluding Ethiopians. Singles receive NIS 45,000 up to age 44, and over 44, NIS 70,000. Families renting apartments are entitled to rental subsidies during their first five years here and get NIS 450 a month in their first year, with the sum dropping each year thereafter until it reaches about NIS 150 in the fifth year. Aryeh Dean Cohen

Retired police officer confesses to slaying

Moshe Pe'er, the retired police officer arrested as a suspect in the fatal shooting last Sunday of Levana Ben-Nun in Kiryat Motzkin, reportedly has confessed to the slaying, but said it was accidental. Pe'er, 58, who said in court Monday that he is innocent, reportedly changed his story to say that he didn't intend to murder Ben-Nun. Pe'er, 58, reportedly shot Ben-Nun after she tried to break off an affair with him. After Pe'er was arrested he tried to commit suicide by swallowing pills. Itim

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An Ayatollah behind the bars

The arrest of former Islamic leader Hussein Ali Montazeri Shakes Iran

By NICHOLAS GOLDBERG

QOM, Iran — In this holy city, where the Islamic revolution was born more than three decades ago, the arrest of Grand Ayatollah Hussein Ali Montazeri has left people shaken and worried, and wary of the secret police now crawling the streets.

Montazeri's school has been wrecked and closed, his books burned by vigilantes. He himself was assaulted, according to his son, and knocked to the ground. Once a great leader of the Islamic revolution, he's now an elderly man under house arrest, being punished for his thoughts, and it is unclear what will become of him.

"If it is treason against the people — which it is — there will be no laxity," warned Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran's supreme leader.

Treason, in this country, is punishable by death.

The bearded, 75-year-old mullah made his offending remarks last month during a speech on a seemingly obscure religious subject to a roomful of students. In it, Montazeri — a teacher of Khamenei and former president Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, a leader of the Iranian revolution, and a man once slated to take over from the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini as supreme leader — joined a growing movement of dissidents challenging the most basic underpinning of the Islamic republic: the right of a clerical leader to run the government.

Along the way, he served as a harsh reminder that the revolution that was made in Qom can be undone there as well.

"The system is being shaken from within. That's why they're so upset," said Daryoush Farouhar, a longtime opponent of the regime.

"When it comes from one of their own, someone like Montazeri especially, who is respected as a learned Islamic scholar, it's like throwing a bomb into a building." Nor is

Montazeri the only insider criticizing the role of the supreme leader. There's also Ayatollah Ahmed Azari-Qomi, a senior cleric who distributed a 35-page document defending Montazeri. There's Abdelkarim Soroush, an influential Islamic philosopher who has been arguing for years that mosque and state should be disentangled — and who was physically barred from speaking to a student meeting in Tehran just a few weeks ago. There are others as well, like Ayatollah Sayed Sadegh Rohani, who has been living under house arrest in Mashad for 14 years.

The controversy comes in the wake of May's watershed election for president, in which Mohammed Khatami won a stunning upset over the heavily favored, right-wing candidate backed by Khamenei. The election result was widely viewed as a call for dramatic change in Iran and for a loosening of social strictures that have gone along with Islamic rule.

Nevertheless, voicing dissent is not a safe practice here. Heshmatollah Tabarzadi, head of the Union of Islamic Students and Graduates, said in an interview last month that the supreme leader should be popularly elected, rather than appointed by other clerics. His office was soon stormed by thugs believed to be directed by right-wing government forces.

"For 15 minutes, six or seven men beat me and kicked me," said Tabarzadi, whose hand was still in a cast during an interview last week. "They hit me in the face with a cable, and with brass knuckles. They yelled, 'Why have you criticized the leader?'"

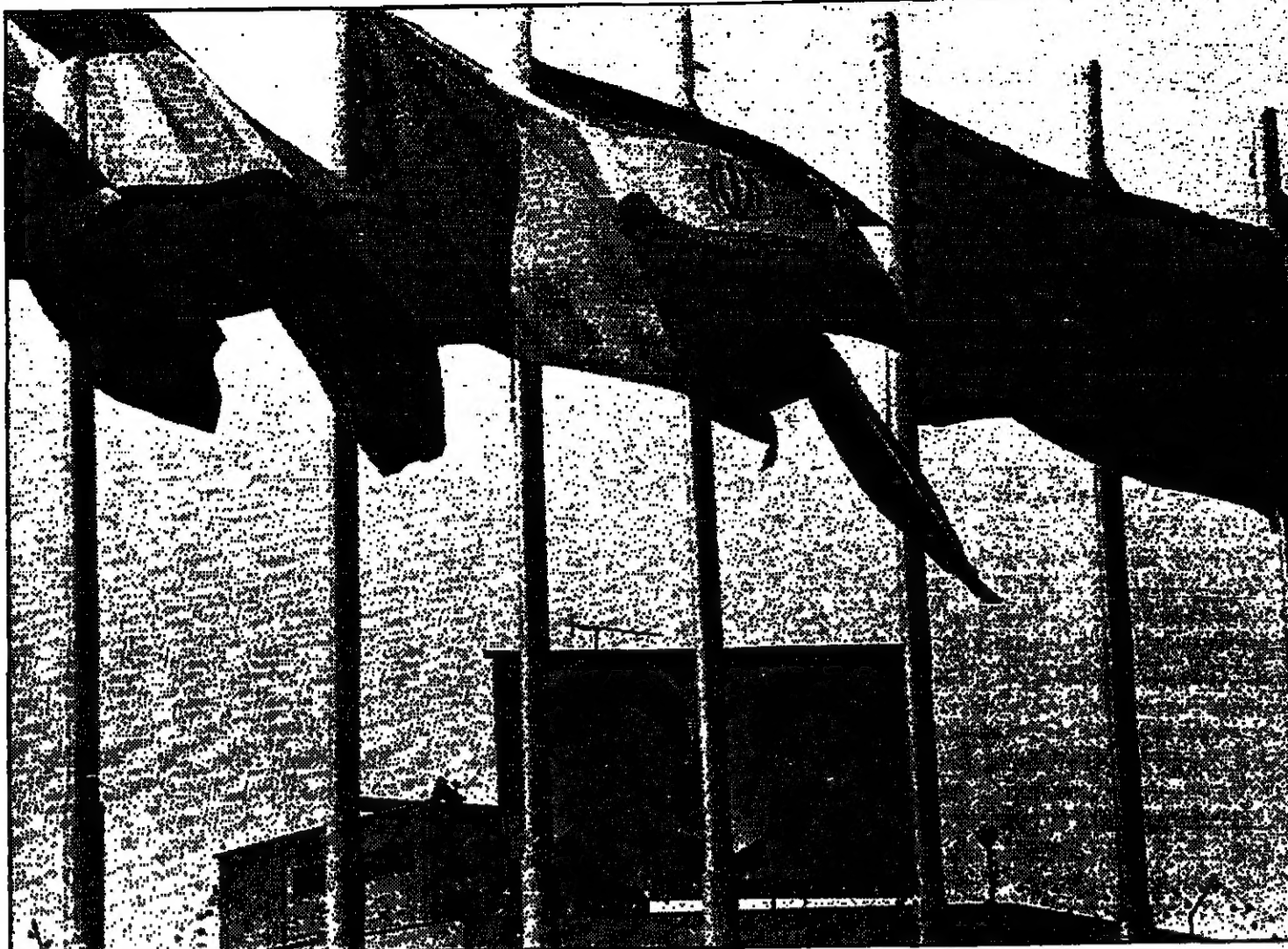
Few believe that the Islamic regime is on the verge of collapse almost 20 years after it came to power under Khomeini, driving out Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi. But for Khamenei, the hard-line leader known as "Allah's deputy on Earth," the events of recent weeks are significant.

"Everyone knows that when change comes, if it comes, it will come from within," said Shirin Ebadi, a human-rights lawyer in Tehran. "That is why these internal battles are so important."

At the heart of Montazeri's comments — as well as those of Soroush, Tabarzadi and Qomi — is the concept of the ideological underpinning of clerical rule in Iran. As enunciated by Khomeini in 1970, it calls for selecting a supreme political leader from among the ranks of top ayatollahs to run the government as the prophet Mohammed ran the Islamic community in the seventh century. This supreme leader — Khomeini was the first — is empowered, among other things, to dismiss the president; to appoint military and police commanders and to declare war. The leader, expected to be the most senior and learned cleric in the land, is chosen by a committee of senior clerics.

In his speech, Montazeri, himself a religious leader, as are virtually all senior government officials, did not call for a separation of religion and politics. But he made two key assertions: First, he argued that Khamenei was not qualified to serve as the leader, because he was neither a senior-enough cleric nor a serious-enough scholar. Second, he argued that the supreme leader, whoever that person is, should act as an overseer, ensuring that secular government does not conflict with Islamic law, rather than as a hands-on politician running the machinery of secular government day-to-day.

"The duty of the leader is to supervise that nothing violates the religious principles," Montazeri said. "It does not mean that you form a large organization and a royal guard bigger than the ones of the kings and that no one can be in touch with you." Montazeri, who studied with Khomeini as early as 1939 and was a leader of the anti-shah movement from the 1960s, was Khomeini's original choice to succeed him as



Ayatollah Khamenei's portrait dons a Tehran rooftop alongside Ayatollah Khomeini's. Khamenei is accusing his 75-year-old nemesis Montazeri of "treason against the people."

supreme leader. But in the late 1980s, the two clashed when Montazeri criticized mass executions as well as the regime's treatment of dissidents and its conduct of the Iran-Iraq war. Just three months before his death, in June 1989, Khomeini purged Montazeri from the inner circle and removed him as designated successor.

To this day, many of Montazeri's opponents argue that he is nothing more than a disgruntled has-been who wishes he had gotten the top job. "In his last days, Imam Khomeini no longer recognized Montazeri as a good figure to replace him, and he changed his mind," said Ayatollah Makarem Shirazi, one of the senior clerics in Qom, during an interview

last week at his Koran school. "But he and some members of his entourage believe it was his right, and they're still trying to make that point." Others argue that Montazeri simply hasn't done his homework. "Any source which claims that the holy prophet Mohammed was only an adviser in the consultative body which [guided] Islam at that time

doesn't know what the Koran has revealed," charged Ayatollah Mohammed Yazdi, head of Iran's judiciary, during his sermon at Friday prayers in Tehran. "Have you not observed in history that the prophet himself issued decrees both on wars and peace, in addition to taking care of financial affairs?" (Newspaper)

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מלון יאסר

Following Iraq's execution of four Jordanians

Amman recalls envoy from Baghdad

By SULEMAN AL-KHALIDI

AMMAN (Reuters) - Jordan recalled its charge d'affaires in Baghdad yesterday and sharply cut Iraq's diplomatic presence in Amman in retaliation against Baghdad's execution of four Jordanians.

"We recalled today our charge d'affaires in Baghdad for consultations over the circumstances of the executions, and

asked the Iraqi ambassador to reduce the number of Iraqi embassy staff in Amman to seven, and gave them a week to leave the country," a senior Jordanian cabinet minister said.

In Baghdad, Jordan's charge d'affaires Adil Swaidan confirmed he had been recalled in protest over Iraq's hanging on Monday of four Jordanians on smuggling charges.

"I have been summoned by my gov-

ernment for consultation and as a protest against the Iraqi decision executing four Jordanian nationals," Swaidan said.

He said the men were hanged after a special court in Baghdad charged them with smuggling car spare parts whose total value was \$20,000 Iraqi dinars (around \$400).

He named the four, who he said were in their 30s, as Walid Mohammed Tawfiq, Saleh Youssef Ali, Saeed Youssef

Ali and Rizeq Basharah.

Diplomats said the retaliation was Jordan's toughest diplomatic stand against Baghdad since King Hussein, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's main Arab ally during the Gulf War, began publicly calling for change in Iraq after the defection of senior Iraqi officials in 1995.

A number of Iraqi diplomats have been expelled in the last few years. The latest expulsions were in August 1996 when

three diplomats were asked to leave over charges Iraq had a role in disturbances in Karak, Jordan.

The latest step reduces to seven diplomats the current 22 accredited embassy staff, excluding an unspecified number of Iraqis connected to the embassy, officials said.

Officials said Jordan's Deputy Prime Minister and acting Foreign Minister Jawad al-Anani told Iraqi Ambassador

Nouri el-Wayess of the steps after summoning him to the ministry, where he was handed a letter of protest from the Jordanian government.

Jordan had condemned the executions as unjust and "uncommon practice" among friendly neighbors and said Iraq went ahead despite pleas at the highest level to commute the sentences and obtain details of the petty charges against them.

Yeltsin in sanatorium with 'cold'

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russian President Boris Yeltsin has an acute respiratory viral infection resulting from a cold and will stay at a sanatorium outside Moscow for 10-12 days, the Kremlin confirmed yesterday.

Presidential spokesman Sergei Yastzhenbelsky told a news briefing Yeltsin was not in bed but had been told by doctors not to go outdoors. He said Yeltsin's cold

symptoms started during a visit to Stockholm last week.

"Doctors treating him say that an acute respiratory viral infection has developed out of a cold," Yastzhenbelsky said, adding that the Kremlin chief was also running a temperature. "The doctors do not exclude influenza developing and have recommended a stay in a sanatorium for the president."

"Today he went to the Barvikha

sanatorium [outside Moscow]," the spokesman said.

Russian debt and Moscow share prices fell on an initial report from Interfax news agency saying Yeltsin had been taken to hospital with a cold.

Yeltsin, who is 66, underwent heart surgery in November last year and then caught pneumonia before returning to the Kremlin in February. Yastzhenbelsky said

Yeltsin was able to work on documents while at the elite sanatorium.

A year after Yeltsin's heart operation he underwent a series of tests and doctors said then they had no concerns over his health.

Television footage taken of Yeltsin at a ceremony on Tuesday showed him standing firmly although he was widely reported to be tired when he made a three-day visit to Sweden last week.

Global pact waits another day

KYOTO, Japan (Reuters) - The UN meeting on global warming has been extended for an extra day and a senior US official said yesterday chances of an agreement on reducing greenhouse gas emissions were down to 30 percent.

In a bleak forecast about a possible collapse of the meeting of 160 nations after 10 days of negotiations, the official said developing nations were holding an agreement "hostage" by their opposition to pollution trading between nations.

With an agreement tantalizingly in sight once the US, the European Union and Japan settled differences over the size of gas cuts, the row involving the so-called G77 and China at this late stage cast a pall over the gathering.

"Some developing nations are holding the agreement hostage over emissions trading," a senior US official said. "If I were a betting man, and I am, I would say the chances of an agreement at this point are 30 percent, maximum."

Earlier in the week, conference officials had hoped to have the meeting wrapped up with an agreement by today.

Kiyotaka Akasaka of Japan's Foreign Ministry also said the emissions trading issue was causing problems.

"While the bulk of the issues have been resolved, the problem of developing nations is still pending," Akasaka told Japanese reporters. "We don't have a deal yet."

Hopes had soared when conference chairman Raul Estrada said that progress in negotiations, mainly between the US, the EU and Japan, made it possible for there to be a global reduction among industrialized countries of 6% instead of the 5% he had suggested in draft proposals on Tuesday.

CLIMATE SUMMIT

By BRIAN WILLIAMS

Sources said that under deals worked out during frantic negotiations yesterday, US cuts would be 7% from 1990 levels, while the EU cuts would be 8% and Japan's cuts 6%. However, the sources did not rule out these figures changing slightly in the hours trading that has followed every move.

The talks were spurred by warnings that pollution-induced global warming eventually could lead to catastrophic shifts in the Earth's climate, including droughts, floods and rising sea levels.

Going into the meeting 10 days ago, the US, the world's biggest greenhouse gas producer, had wanted just to stabilize emissions at 1990 levels in the next 15 years, while the EU had the most ambitious plan for 15% cuts and Japan proposed 5%.

Formal conference meetings were scheduled and rescheduled throughout the day as the saga unfolded. The US official did not name which members of the so-called G77 and China grouping of developing nations were holding up a deal.

"But it involves major players," he said.

Under the trading proposal, countries exceeding their emissions levels could still meet their targets by buying credits from nations emitting less than they were allowed.

Emissions trading already has been tried for around five years in the US in the form of daily over-the-counter dealing in permits for sulphur dioxide emissions. Some Canadian companies have also already started trading in emission permits for greenhouse gases.

Critics complain the plan would allow big polluters to buy their way out of cutting emissions in their own country. Its supporters say that trading is a central part of all industrialized nations' plans to fight global warming.

"They [developing nations] know that without trading it is impossible for nations like the US to meet the big steps we are taking at this meeting to fight pollution," the US official said.

Trading is not the developing nations' only objection. They also want dropped from a draft agreement Washington's demands that the developing world commit to take part in the fight against global warming some time in the future.

The demand, which developing nations say they cannot give because their growing economies could not cope with the expense at this time, has been made a make-or-buy condition for the US senate to ratify an agreement.

Colombian Environment Minister Eduardo De La Rosa said, "No one wants an agreement without clarity on emissions trading, on voluntary developing country participation, and on compliance.... Right now part of the concern is that 'voluntary' will later be construed as 'mandatory'."

He said Brazil and India were among developing countries most adamantly refusing to accept a protocol with wording on any type of new commitment by developing countries.

"Everyone wants an agreement, but not just any protocol," De La Rosa said.

Estrada fought to hold the meeting together just when it had seemed the end was in sight.

I don't know what is exactly going to be the end," Estrada said. "Perhaps this day will be in the future remembered as the Day of the Atmosphere."

Lone hijacker arrested in Moscow



Russian commandos patrol the airfield at Moscow's Sheremetyevo-1 Airport yesterday after the hijacked Il-62 landed. (AP)

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russian security forces yesterday arrested a lone hijacker and released 142 passengers - who were unaware of the hijack until they left the plane flying from the Far East to Moscow, airport and security officials said.

"Everyone is safe and sound," Gennady Zaitsev, head of Russia's Federal Aviation Service, told reporters at Moscow's Sheremetyevo-1 Airport, where the plane landed.

The hijack suspect, Gennady Todikov, 59, seized the Ilyushin-62 airliner early in the morning after it took off from Magadan en route to Moscow with 142 passengers and eight crew members on board, including 42 children.

Deputy Interior Minister Pyotr Latyshev told parliament later in the day that the hijacker delivered a letter signed by three passengers demanding \$10 million and a writ-

ten guarantee to take them to Switzerland and grant them political asylum there.

He was armed only with a fake bomb, police said.

Latyshev said there was reason to suspect the accused hijacker's mental health.

Todikov told interrogators he thought someone was monitoring him, so to highlight his oppression and disagreement with the Russian government, he sold his apartment in Magadan and decided to hijack a plane, Latyshev said.

"Of course, experts will make their conclusions, but we have all reasons to doubt his psychological health," Latyshev said.

He said the elite Alpha commando force had detained the hijacker after he was asked to emerge from the aircraft to negotiate with officials.

A Sheremetyevo-1 spokeswoman said suspicious there were two more hijackers on the plane did not prove true.

Vladimir Gudkiyev, a State Duma lower house of parliament deputy for the Magadan region, said the accused hijacker appeared calm and composed after he was seized.

"He looked calm, produced documents, answered questions," Gudkiyev told reporters, adding Todikov was a resident of the Magadan region and offered little resistance when captured.

The airliner landed at about 11:30 a.m. at Sheremetyevo-1, where Russian security forces had already set up an emergency headquarters.

Police evacuated the immediate area and sealed off the domestic terminal of Sheremetyevo-1, which shares a runway with the Sheremetyevo-2 international ter-

minal. Officials said the airport had not been closed altogether.

President Boris Yeltsin, who was at a sanatorium outside Moscow with an acute respiratory viral infection, discussed possible countermeasures with Interior Minister Anatoly Kulikov and Nikolai Kovalev, head of the Federal Security Service, Inter-Tass news agency said.

It quoted Yeltsin's spokesman, Sergei Yastzhenbelsky, as saying the president was "naturally worried about the fate of those on board" and was "closely monitoring the situation."

"Everything was fine and calm, passengers knew nothing," said Vladimir Yermolayev, a 57-year-old passenger. "We only learned about what happened when we were getting out and were surrounded [by commandos]. It was scary."

Nobel laureates receive prizes at glittering ceremony

STOCKHOLM (Reuters) - Italian dramatist Dario Fo and nine pioneers in science collected Nobel prizes in a glittering ceremony on Wednesday while anti-landmine activists received the Nobel Peace Prize in Norway.

The world's leading scientists and economists - as well as Fo - received their prestigious prizes on the same day that American Jody Williams and the International Committee to Ban Landmines received the peace prize in neighboring Oslo.

In Sweden, Nobel prizes for Medicine, Chemistry, Physics, Economics and Literature were awarded to 10 winners in Stockholm's elegant Concert House by King Carl XVI Gustav.

As has been the case in recent years, Americans dominated the proceedings, with 6 of 10 winners in Stockholm being Americans.

Loudest applause from the 1,800 formally-dressed audience at the concert house came for Fo, a popular winner of the Nobel Literature Prize and author of

"Accidental Death of an Anarchist."

Medicine Prize winner Stanley Prusiner, who discovered a disease-causing agent that could have helped to prevent the outbreak of "mad cow" disease, ensured he would get plenty of applause by bringing a following of 55 people from the US. Not all of them, however, could get a seat at the Nobel banquet on Thursday evening, Sweden's social event of the year when 1,300 people sit down for a sumptuous meal and entertainment in Stockholm City Hall.

Demand for one of the 1,600-crown tickets is so high that Nobel official Michael Sohlman said he was being lobbied by foreign ambassadors in Sweden for tickets.

US Economists Robert Merton and Myron Scholes were awarded the economics prize for their formula to work out the value of derivatives, described as a key reason behind the success of the world's derivatives markets.

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In the shadows of Lenin's cadaver

By ADAM TANNER

MOSCOW — In 1941, Ilya Zbarsky boarded a train in Moscow to accompany the remains of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin to a secret location in Siberia. He was to stay by the side of the founder of the Soviet state until the end of World War II.

By that time Lenin had been dead for two decades, but Zbarsky was charged with keeping him looking as he did when he died in January 1924.

"It was not especially pleasant work," said Zbarsky, 84, who has just published his memoirs *In the Shadow of the Mausoleum*.

"My position was very dangerous; you could be arrested for a wrong word and even shot. Even a minor fault could be dangerous because Stalin was the leader and there was the terror of dictatorship," he said in an interview.

Zbarsky broke his silence a few years ago when he first began to reveal grizzly details of how his father Boris and Professor Vladimir Vorobyov preserved Lenin's body in 1924.

Zbarsky's book, published in French in October and expected to be translated later into English and German, adds even more detail to the strange tale, which was a state secret in Soviet times.

THE INITIAL autopsy on Lenin involved the cutting of veins, which are the traditional pipeline for embalming fluid. Moscow had decided that the body had to be preserved, so the embalmers had to come up with a new technique.

They produced the initial idea of freezing the body, and this was approved by the Soviet government despite the doubts of other scientists.

But as the weather began to get warmer in March of 1924, the embalmers had to come up with a

new plan.

"The equipment which was very rare at this time — refrigerators were just in their first stages — was brought from abroad and began to be installed in the mausoleum," Zbarsky said. "During this time Lenin's body began to deteriorate...and the equipment for freezing was not yet ready."

Vorobyov headed a new effort to preserve the body chemically, and came up with a method of immersion.

"The body was washed with water, with different concentrations of alcohol, then with elevated solutions of potassium acetate. Then it was put into a bath," Zbarsky said. "In several spots on several sides of the body cuts were done for better penetration and permeability of this solution."

Lenin's current caretakers confirm that the technique remains the same to this day — several months in the bath every 18 months, and a touch-up dab of solution twice a week.

Zbarsky started working in Lenin's granite mausoleum on Red Square in 1934 as an assistant to his father and Vorobyov.

"As I was studying physiology in the biological faculty of the university, I had some experience with the human corpse. But as it was Lenin's body I was afraid to touch it for some time. Afterwards it began to become routine work."

Even then, the fear of something going wrong with Lenin gripped the entire team of embalmers.

"The most dangerous were the moles which appeared from time to time, the spots," he said. "We could be punished for a minor fault, we were always in stress. On the other hand, we were in a privileged position in comparison to our colleagues."

Zbarsky accompanied his father and the body to Tyumen during

World War II as distance was put between Lenin and the advancing Nazi forces.

"It was top secret, but nonetheless the population of the city could guess this," he said.

Zbarsky lost his job at the mausoleum in 1952, after his father was arrested in a final wave of Stalinist repression. The son then got a job doing cancer research and still shows up at his Moscow laboratory several times a week.

ZBARSKY, WITH a crop of white hair, bushy eyebrows and a sharp memory, appears far younger than his true age, and keeps a sense of humor about his past.

"I haven't embalmed myself, certainly," he said when asked about the secret of his longevity. "The majority of my friends are dead and I survived this difficult period, but I have no special secret."

The well-preserved Lenin, Zbarsky's legacy, remains open to the public's gaze in Red Square five days a week, although the embalmer says he has not visited the body since the 1950s.

He says he never had faith in communism, even though he was once a party member. Only as a child did he believe Lenin was a great leader.

Infuriating Russia's dwindling band of old-time Communists, Zbarsky maintains that Lenin has spent enough time above ground and should now be buried.

"My opinion is to inter the body," he said. "It is not a tradition of Russian people, of civilized people in general, to make some relics of chiefs of the government and party."

President Boris Yeltsin has spoken in favor of burying Lenin several times in recent years, but has backed down under pressure from those who want to keep this symbol of revolution on public display.

Reuters



Lenin addresses crowd at Red Square on 1917 revolution's first anniversary. Preserving his body required inventing new techniques.

Who killed Meriwether Lewis?

ATLANTA — He was Magellan in buckskin, Moses in reverse. Instead of trying to lead his flock out of the wilderness, he led them straight into it. At a time when most people seldom left their farms, he took a small band of daredevils across the vast continent, mapping the unknown and solving the mystery of America, only to become a mystery himself at the end.

For years, schoolchildren have been taught that Meriwether Lewis — head of the storied Lewis and Clark expedition — blazed a trail West at the start of the 19th century, then shot himself to death a few years later. But some experts tell a different story, one that could be historical dynamite. They say Lewis was murdered, cut down in his prime, and next week they'll ask for the chance to prove it.

At an unusual meeting here next Tuesday in the southeast regional office of the National Park Service, an impassioned group of scholars, scientists and Lewis descendants will make a case for opening the grave of America's greatest explorer, believing his dust-bound, disputed remains could solve one of history's most tantalizing riddles.

More than mere curiosity compels them. Unlike past disputes over the mortal coils of Jesse James or John Wilkes Booth, whose demises pro-

vided fodder for idle academic debates, the dispute over Lewis pits two innate perceptions of the American hero (inevitably flawed or irreproachably perfect?) and two deeply held views of America's infancy.

If the first post-Revolutionary celebrity — a national icon who seemed destined for the White House — fell victim to an assassin, rather than depression, then historians may have to recalibrate their original carbon dating on the loss of American innocence. No longer his own shame, the death of Lewis would be tacked onto the ever-growing list of America's collective shames.

Also, should it turn out that nearly 200 years of whispered suspicions about a sensational death were, in fact, well-founded, then everyone with a sinister, unorthodox slant on the deaths of John F. Kennedy or Abraham Lincoln or Vince Foster could gain new credibility.

Finally, for the 160 Lewis descendants asking that the remains be exhumed, the dispute is about nothing less than peace of mind, about laying a cherished ancestor to rest. Some insist that Lewis, who possibly attended church with his dear friend Thomas Jefferson, awaits a proper Christian burial, denied him 183 years ago because of the scan-

dalous nature of his death.

"The main reason I want the exhumation and autopsy done is I want the truth established," says William Anderson, 80, great-great-grandson of Lewis' older sister, Jane. "I think he was murdered. But if it was suicide, that's all right. I just want to know."

Park Service officials, meanwhile, worry where it will all end. If they permit the Lewis exhumation, will someone come along next year and ask to dig up a Civil War battlefield? "This would set a terrible precedent," says Park Service spokesman Paul Winegar.

"We have thousands of historical figures buried in parks throughout the country." Even without the pending Park Service meeting, Lewis already is crossing millions of minds these days, thanks to a lavish Ken Burns documentary about the 1804-1806 expedition with William Clark. The documentary, which debuted several weeks ago on public television, reminded viewers of Lewis' often forgotten feat: More heroic than Neil Armstrong, more humane than Columbus, he navigated the uncharted immensity of North America from St. Louis to the Pacific Northwest with determination and dignity. He was the first US citizen to stand atop the Continental Divide and witness the dreamscape of the West — which is why it's so

AMERICAN SCENE

By J. W. HARRIS

ironic that no one witnessed his fatal injuries on Oct. 11, 1809.

Some things are known. At the end of his life, Lewis was under terrific stress, traveling from St. Louis to Washington for a showdown with federal bureaucrats over some questionable expense reports he'd filed as governor of the new Louisiana Territory. On Oct. 10, he stopped at a lonely outpost called Grinder's Inn, on the Natchez Trace, 72 miles southwest of Nashville, Tenn. Mrs. Grinder, the proprietor, a woman whose first name seems to have vanished in the mists of time, heard strange noises that fateful night, followed by the pioneer's plaintive cries: "O madam! Lewis called. 'Give me some water, and heal my wounds.' If only Grinder had opened her door, there might be no mystery. But she chose to cower in her cabin until daylight.

The Burns documentary sticks closely to the majority opinion that Lewis shot himself twice — once in the head, once in the breast — then finished the job by cutting himself from head to foot with a razor. Ridiculous, say people like L.

Ruth Frick, of Washington, Mo., an amateur historian who has spent 40 years studying Lewis.

"A man who'd killed many animals," she says, "and knew how to commit suicide painlessly, to do it in the way that's been described, doesn't make any sense." "The historical version of the death is historical folderol," says James E. Starns, a law professor and forensic scientist at George Washington University and the leader of the crusade to exhumate Lewis.

"There's no way, scientifically, Lewis could die in the way and the time span described," Starns suggests that Lewis may have been the victim of a robbery, a likely fate for any rich-looking gent along the Natchez Trace, which seethed with bandits and robbers back then. Other historians agree, among them Richard Dillon, history professor at the University of San Francisco, who wrote a widely respected biography of Lewis roughly 30 years ago.

"It was an extremely dangerous place," Dillon says of the Natchez Trace. "Murder was endemic down there. He was all alone, maybe out of his head to some extent. He'd have been a great target for any kind of prowling predator or murderer. They were called land pirates, you know." Besides stray ruffians in the area,

suspicion also tends to fall on Maj. James Neely, US agent to the Chickasaw nation, who accompanied Lewis on part of his journey, then oddly abandoned him the day before his death. (It was Neely who later delivered the bad news to Jefferson.) Also, there was Lewis' servant, John Fennier, "who stole Lewis' money and horses, returned to Natchez, and was never afterwards heard of," according to a letter written sometime later by the son of Clark.

Then, of course, there was the curious Grinder, whose behavior begs explanation.

That the Burns documentary omits any mention of these possible suspects enrages Starns and his fellow dissenters. But Burns couldn't care less.

"I'm a narrative filmmaker," he says. "I'm telling a story."

Would you, in the middle of the climax of the story, stop and say, "Others many years from now will think differently? I'm supposed to give equal time to crackpot theories? I didn't do it with Huey Long, and I didn't do it with Lincoln." Should the exhumation ever be allowed, Burns won't be on hand.

"It'll interest Gerald," he says, "but it doesn't interest me." Stephen E. Ambrose, author of the recent best seller about Lewis,

Undaunted Courage, which forms the basis of the Burns documentary, also dismisses out of hand the notion that Lewis met with foul play.

Ambrose insists the suicide scenario is the most logical. Though no one saw Lewis take his own life, many saw him despondent in the days before his death, and both his best friends never doubted what happened, based on their knowledge of his turbulent mind.

In addition to Lewis' descendants, Starns counts among his supporters the governor of Virginia, where Lewis was born, the governor of Missouri, where Lewis and Clark launched their expedition, and the governor of Tennessee, where Lewis now lies. Another ally is Joe Baugh, district attorney general of Lewis County, Tenn., where a bizarre coroner's inquest last year found plenty of cause for doubt about Lewis' death, leading a jury to formally recommend exhumation.

"I know from having been in the district attorney's office a long time," Baugh says, "in every death there are strange circumstances."

But this was really very strange. Not only does the truth demand exhumation, Baugh claims, but Lewis himself would.

(Los Angeles Times)

AGENDA

Continued from Page 1

A short while before his arrival, Ben Gilman, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, paid a visit to Damascus. Gilman is a Holocaust survivor who is prepared to go through fire and water for Israel. Netanyahu's view is a lot closer to his heart than those of Shimon Peres. Nevertheless, when he made a stopover in Jerusalem on his way home, he said that he had found Damascus to be open-minded.

Indyk will attempt to transmit a positive message to Assad about Netanyahu's willingness to renew negotiations. He will attempt to get the green light that there is room for discussion, in the form of quieting the Lebanese front. Assad has already received a down payment: Syria was recently removed from the US list of nations which encourage the narcotics trade. The next payment would take Syria off the list of countries which support terror. This would be worth its weight in gold to the depleted coffers in Damascus, and it would have an even greater impact on Syria's ability to rehabilitate its army and renew its military equipment.

Netanyahu, too, enjoys toying with the idea that renewed talks with Syria will help him out of the Palestinian quagmire.

In Jerusalem and Washington, however, the prevailing view is that although Assad cannot use force as long as Israel sits on the Golan Heights, he will not agree to compromise on anything less than the borders of June 4, 1967, a compromise which means a Syrian presence on the shores of

the Kinneret and thus a threat to Israel's most important water reservoir.

In the current political climate, it would be hard to imagine anyone on the Israeli side agreeing to this. Not Labor's Ehud Barak and certainly not Netanyahu who depends on the support of the Third Way, which campaigned on retaining the Golan. Netanyahu is not in a position to be envied. He also has the National Religious Party, Tsomet, and Moledet breathing down his neck.

He has trouble concentrating

Yasser Arafat should not be envied either. Although Israeli intelligence sources say that he is not suffering from Parkinson's disease, he is extremely sick. His powers of concentration and capacity for work have declined considerably. On the 10th anniversary of the outbreak of the intifada, the Palestinians are busy debating the choice of a successor and this has weakened him in the public eye.

During a meeting last week with one of the Labor Party leaders, Arafat was seen to be gazing blankly at the ceiling for several minutes. He lost contact with those around him and his visitor, long a supporter of dialogue with him, found himself in a most embarrassing situation.

On Monday, I returned to Gaza. The town is undergoing a building boom. Roads are being paved, the main streets are being widened, and grass, flowers, and trees have been planted along the main boulevards.

The price of building plots there



US Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk (Isaac Harari)

are among the highest in the world, due to a land shortage and overpopulation. In the past, the Palestinians refused to discuss Israeli proposals for building multi-story apartment buildings on the grounds that the Jews had their eye on the land in order to establish more settlements. Today, in an effort to relieve the housing shortage, the Palestinians are building skyscrapers. A three-room apartment in a 16-story high-rise is priced at just \$60,000. Almost within anyone's reach.

In the Fatah office in town, Fatah prepared the main gathering to mark the start of the intifada at the Jabalya refugee camp, where the first mass attack on IDF positions took place in December 1987.

All hands were busy setting up platforms, but their thoughts were on what Hamas spiritual leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin would say. Since his return to Gaza, he has delivered two key messages: He has recognized Arafat's sole right as the chosen leader of the territories; and Hamas will not negotiate

a cease-fire with Israel, as everything must be dealt with via the Palestinian Authority.

A senior Fatah leader said that although Yassin's presence has not caused any significant change among the Palestinians, he has still not spoken his last words. In fact, it would appear that the PLO leadership expects that his statements to the Jews and to the West regarding Arafat's sole leadership, will now be repeated for the Palestinians to hear and that he will allow the PA to get on with making its internal peace.

In other words, the Palestinian leadership fears that Hamas can still surprise them with more terrorist attacks. An attack now is likely to have a disastrous effect on the seeds of understanding being sown between US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Arafat. Such possible attacks should also be set against the background of his anxiety and the struggle for the succession, which may result in disquiet on the Palestinian street and freeze the peace process.

Dr. Haider Abdel-Shafi, who served as the head of the Palestinian delegation to the Madrid and Washington talks, is among Arafat's harshest critics due to the manner in which he controls the governing bodies. In vain he seeks democracy. However, he believes that Yassin will have a calming influence and that in the final analysis, the Palestinians will make a go of it.

When Palestinians are asked who they would like to see succeed Arafat, when he finally retires, most point in the direction of Abdel-Shafi, even though he is some 10 years older. They miss his integrity, and refuse to accept the fact that he is over 80. When



Syrian President Hafez Assad (AP)

asked whether he intends to run for office, he replies: "I have no intention of being a candidate. I'm worried that I'll be elected."

Meanwhile in Nabulus, Louis Abado, one of those released in the Jibril exchange and later deported when the intifada broke out, is perturbed by the rising strength of the opposition, by the power of the Islamic fundamentalists in the universities. He has rejected offers to serve in the Palestinian government and persuaded Arafat that his contribution on the streets is more important.

Last week, he was busy organizing the population census, which was fixed for the anniversary of the intifada. How many Palestinians are there, what assets and property do they own?

From the PA point of view, the very fact that the census is taking place is a sign of sovereignty. In 1967, immediately after the Six Day War, the military government carried one out in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which was placed under curfew during the survey.

Anyone who was not around did not receive an identity card and lost the right to return home. This remained a permanent trauma.

Today, the atmosphere is completely different. The census is an illustration of freedom and independence. This is the main achievement of Oslo and the intifada. People in Gaza joke about the 40,000 policemen employed by the PA: "Forty should be enough. It's just hidden unemployment. Just imagine if 40,000 policemen were to bother us every day."

Yesterday, the government harassed the Knesset in an unprecedented effort to pass a bill to prevent the census from taking place in Jerusalem. A demonstration of Israeli sovereignty.

Overall, the vast majority of people in east Jerusalem will refuse to participate in the census. They are worried that this will result in their Israeli ID cards being revoked — these cards grant them freedom of movement from Metulla to Eilat, the ability to work anywhere in Israel, unemployment benefits, child allowances, retirement pensions, etc. We tend to take these things for granted, but east Jerusalemites consider them privileges which make all the difference when comparing their quality of life to that of their brothers in the territories.

Leave Indyk alone

When Indyk arrives in Jerusalem he will also be involved in the Palestinian issue.

This week, President Bill Clinton authorized the reopening of the PLO office in Washington. The office had been closed since August, as Congress was not con-

vinced that Arafat had moved strongly enough against Palestinian terror. The reopening is the carrot dangled before the Palestinians; the stick was that the UN, where they had hoped to be promoted to almost state status.

Ambassador Dore Gold may take credit for two important points. After many years, the Arab block took a thrashing — 61 against, 57 in favor, and 32 abstentions. Israel did not have to play a duel with Micronesia this time round.

The Palestinian stick is the carrot offered to Israel. The understanding the US has recently shown Arafat is the stick waved in our direction, and it is a lot longer. It includes Clinton's denying Netanyahu a meeting and a hardening of policy toward Jerusalem.

When they talk about the stick in Jerusalem, certain people in the Prime Minister's Office point their arrows at the guest due tomorrow. The media is once again signaling that Indyk is behind America's hard-line attitude. As if there is any difference between his stance and that of Dennis Ross.

Anyone who makes such a claim must be unaware of the close relationship between the two and their common outlook on the subject of solving the conflict.

Indyk is a card-carrying supporter of Israel, even if he is not among the Likud's fans. Anyone interested can check this out in Israel's defense network, where they know how to appreciate his contribution to improving our military and technological superiority and to defense cooperation. But as is true of all US Jews, Indyk is first and foremost an American.

ماتيو الحارثي

LIKE STARS AND DUST: Essays by David Ben-Gurion. Translated from Hebrew. Sde Boker, The Ben-Gurion Research Center and the Ben-Gurion Heritage Institute, Bialik Institute, Jerusalem. 496 pp. Price not stated.

By Yosef Yaakov

In annual installments between 1949 and 1962, Israel's founding father set down his combination of abstract ideas and philosophical views in long articles for the Israel Government Yearbook. They represent an inspiring collection, brilliant in conception, superbly written, lucidly translated and massively comprehensive in projecting his vision of what Israel would be.

David Ben-Gurion believed deeply from the start that the State of Israel "will be judged not by its wealth or military strength, nor by its technology, but by its moral worth and human values."

This towering intellectual and political giant, whose single-minded determination resulted in close to single-handed guidance and leadership in the crucial pre-State and immediate post-State years, wrote of his vision of a resurrected nation and land. But, he warned, it was not enough just to be like other nations; Israel must make true the prophetic injunctions. It is among the few nations "which have left their impress upon a large part of civilization, upon the culture of the Christian and Moslem peoples. Through untold generations, we were the only people to believe in the vision of the End of Days."

Ben-Gurion's veteran secretary, Yitzhak Navon - later Israel's fifth president - asserts that not of word of this enormous work was ghost-written or even dictated; the first premier and defense minister wrote it all out himself in longhand.

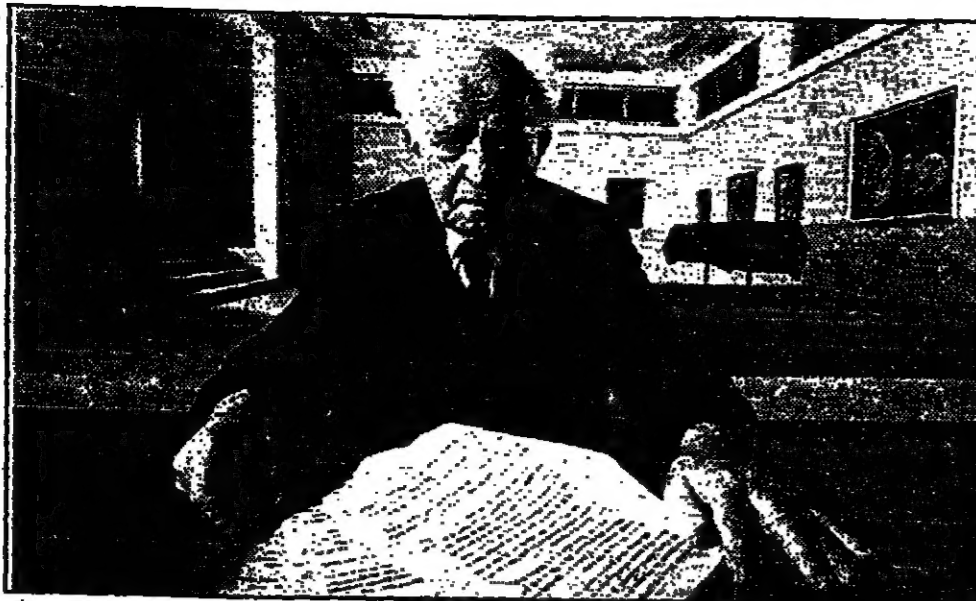
Chapter after chapter, Ben-Gurion described the staggering achievements of the early years of this reborn state. He spent weeks writing each segment. He poured out his sweeping historic and social knowledge, covering virtually all aspects of Jewish history, seeing them in a world context, and bringing his story up to date through the Holocaust and the War of Independence.

From that point, he surveyed, analyzed and interpreted the events and challenges, the dangers and setbacks of each subsequent year until his retirement from the country's leadership. Only after his death were these essays assembled in book form, and only now have they been translated into English.

At the outset, he ringingly proclaimed his credo: "The State of Israel was created by the Jewish People for the sake of the Jewish People. This is its *raison d'être* and the condition for its survival." He believed his first task to be the implementation of the sovereignty of the Jewish people over their destiny. The crux of the Zionist revolution - a national liberation movement - was, he wrote, "in one word: independence."

But, he went on, unlike the case of other national liberation movements, the problems of Israel were not solved merely with the ouster of foreign rulers: statehood created burning needs. Ben-Gurion was deeply distressed by the "morbid" fragmentation of the political system, which intensified the rifts in Israeli society and hampered the realization of Israel's central aim.

His status-quo agreement with the religious parties even before the State was established reflected his acknowledgment of Israel as a state based



Nation builder

on law, not Halacha. But he failed to carry out the needed wide-ranging electoral reforms, placing limits on his power of leadership, which critics and adversaries tended - and still tend - to ignore.

As for foreign and defense affairs, Ben-Gurion said a settlement with the Arabs had to follow their "despair of the prospect of preventing Eretz Yisrael from being Jewish.... If our presence in the country becomes an overwhelming fact, they will despair."

Another strategic principle was that Israel must, at all costs, avoid becoming involved in hostilities with one of the Great Powers, except when essential to defend existential, strategic or basic national interests. He was anxious to bring Israel into NATO or achieve a strategic defense pact with the US, to bolster its deterrent force and anchor recognition of its borders.

Beyond all, this nation builder and highly resourceful statesman realized the imperative of solving the dual problem of survival - of the State and of the Jewish people in the Diaspora - and of establishing Israel's status as the country for all Jews, not only for her own citizens.

Speaking of the Moslem conquest and its rapid spread, Ben-Gurion pointed out that all the peoples of the Middle East and North Africa adopted the new religion and language, some willingly, some under compulsion; only the Jewish people weathered this terrific storm.

Following the labor and farming pioneers who shaped the Yishuv at its beginning, the waves of immigration created an internal division of class and ideology, with an urban working class, a middle class and other groups.

Ben-Gurion recalled the two "disasters which not even our people, long taught by suffering, could match: the isolation of Russian Jewry and the annihilation of the great part of the Jews of Europe." The Jews of Russia had revived the State by building the Yishuv and were the prop of the Zionist Movement. Then came the "hideous calamity which overtook European Jewry" - the Holocaust.

Speaking of the impulses for immigration, he pointed out that "the Jews of Iraq needed no ideology to come here," being the victims of pressure and distress. However, ideology "has had no impact on American Jews and Zionists." There will be no historic prospect for Zionism once it no longer identifies itself with moving to Israel. Three methods could maintain the unity of the Jewish people: Hebrew education; intensifying the vision of Messianic redemption; and deeper personal bonds between Diaspora Jewry and Israel in all forms.

Looking ahead, Ben-Gurion wrote of the use of atomic and solar energy, and the production of electric power with the help of the winds and the waves, and the exploitation of the plentiful natural resources of the Dead Sea; his near-obsession with peopling and developing the Negev comes to the fore clearly in his writings.

The Arabs, he wrote, have transformed more than one flourishing and populous country into a desert - but the wasteland in Arab countries is no obstacle to their existence and independence. Israel cannot long tolerate within her bounds a desert taking up over half her territory.

Space forbids reviewing Ben-Gurion's well-known views on the War of Independence and the 1956 Sinai Campaign; but even on these subjects there are flashes of insight which are often overlooked more than a generation later.

In sum, "security must be our first concern, but we shall not survive by security alone; we must redeem the Jewish People, conquer the desert, reform our system of democracy, build a model society, raise individual standards, serve mankind. And none of these things will accomplish itself."

A dreamer? Perhaps. But also the greatest doer of this people and nation in modern times. This is not a book just to browse through: every paragraph is a kernel of knowledge and wisdom, and a reminder of what the builder of this nation yearned for, what he observed, and what we, in a later age, have witnessed and are witnessing.

FIFTY YEARS OF EUROPE by Jan Morris. New York: Villard. 364 pp. \$24.

By Richard Eder

Find the right spot as fulcrum for your lever, Archimedes said, and you can pry up the world. In another large prying venture - this one seeking to lever up the meaning of Europe's past and present - Jan Morris sets her fulcrum upon a bollard in the port of Trieste.

Why Trieste? Because, during the centuries that it was the Mediterranean outlet for the Austro-Hungarian empire (it went to Italy only after World War I), it was a teeming resort of Germans, Italians, Slavs, Magyars, French, British and any number of others: part entrepot and part pot-au-feu. For some years the French honorary consul, also director of the Trieste Opera, bore the name and title of Baron Raffaele Douglas de Banfield-Tripovich.

It was, if you like - and Morris likes - the vividly lowdown precursor, writ small, of today's high-minded, bland and still undefined European Community.

Why the bollard? In part because it stands on the Audace Pier, named for the warship that arrived in 1918 to raise Italy's flag. An Italian ship, of course - that is, it was built in Scotland for Japan and then, when Italy came in on the Allied side in 1916, the British turned it over to Italy, only to sink it in 1939 when Mussolini switched and came in with the Germans.

A truly European story, Morris reflects from her bollard. She had traveled all the way from her home in Wales so that she could sit upon it and site her introduction. For Morris, all writing grows out of a sense of place. Never mind cyberspace: If you are a journalist, you go there.

Morris has been turning out accomplished books and journalism for 50 years (formerly, before a sex change, as James Morris). It is a half-century of crisscrossing the world, particularly Europe, visiting and revisiting people, places and things, both famous and obscure. One imagines the carved owl on a Dijon wall and a particular, Bucharest lamp post (both appear here) perking up at her approach. "Here comes Jan again, and we are to be mentioned." The subtitle of

Fifty Years of Europe is "An Album." To the degree that it is one, it is pungent and provocative. There is a suggestion that it would like to be more.

The more could be rendered by a question: Why, when all the histories, particularities, achievements and catastrophes of Europe make such a fascinating if often horrifying tapestry, do efforts to write about the post-Cold War present seem so flat? Why is a headline about the European parliament such a page-turner, and not in the book sense?

Surely there must be a way to link the resonances of Charlemagne, the Renaissance, Goethe, Beethoven, Bismarck, Voltaire, Queen Victoria, the French paysan, the Scottish crofter and the Spanish Civil War to Europe's Common Market and suburban supermarkets. Morris doesn't manage it nor, to be fair, does she try very hard.

Most of *Fifty Years of Europe* is a series of brief sketches, vignettes and observations, sorted in very large and approximate thematic baskets. These may serve the convenience of the writer more than the reader. More fox than hedgehog, Morris is at her best when a theme lurks ghostlike, haunting a scene's particulars.

Some of the baskets seem to be filled by shopping lists. One, dealing with Europe's connections, includes wearisomely tiny accounts of bridges, tunnels and ferries. Others are like a basket you bring to the seashore, fill with shells and take home holding a whole ocean kingdom.

The first one, "Holy Symptoms," may be the most suggestive. It is a collection of things that Europeans have cherished for belief, whether religious, magical or superstitious. We get brief glimpses of megalithic shrines and a 1,000-year-old horn dug from a Danish bog. Played on ceremonial occasions, it produces "the oldest sound in Europe." Morris finds her own stones near her home in Wales (once proudly British, these days she calls herself Euro-Welsh). Their magic is more modest; they are lichen-covered and "smell like donkeys." All over Europe she finds dark bronze statues with a gleaming brassy finger or forehead: Dublin's Cuchulain, Dresden's Bacchus, Maestro Mateo at Santiago de Compostela, kissed or touched by generations of pilgrims, tourists and townsfolk.

She chats with the archbishop of Canterbury about toenail problems and reflects how much more potent - and unlikely - it would be to have a similar conversation with the pope. For a moment - those seashells, those ghosts - we have Europe's Reformation and Counter-Reformation played out. Another ghost, the resurgence of pre-communist ways in Central Europe, attends the menu of Gundel's, Budapest's celebrated and revived pre-war restaurant: Wild Suckling Pig Soup Flavored with Tarragon, Count Szechenyi's Roast Breast of Pheasant Stuffed with Hungarian Goose Liver. Gundel's, reads an endorsement by Otto von Habsburg, "shows Hungary on the way to a glorious revival." Morris's album is drawn from 50 years of notebooks and, at times, amid considerable padding, there is the effect of notebooks emptied out. Some of the traveling she does to bring her Europe up to date seems forced. In her account of a pilgrimage up Ireland's holy Croagh Patrick mountain, there is a hint of an assigned - self-assigned, in this case - newspaper feature: Go have the experience so you can write about it. Not entirely, though, Morris takes faith seriously; Croagh Patrick moves her. True, for 50 years she has been traveling to write, but she has also been traveling to believe.

At the end, rather limp and disjointed, she wishes the new Europe well without concealing her uneasiness. The Palais de Berlaymont in Brussels, headquarters for the European community, carries lack of personality to the point of arrogance. She compares it regrettably to the ornate and spiky fantasy she discerns, for example, in the Parliament buildings in London and Budapest.

For what Morris has been seeking - the soul of Europe - her Trieste bollard does better than Berlaymont. It is a soul that lives in a class of particulars, not a treaty of universals.

Also, it was on that same bollard that Morris, just out of the wartime British army in 1946, perched to attempt a very young essay entitled "Nostalgia." Nostalgia haunts her vision still but never clouds it. In its best moments, her album displays years of sharp, present observation uniquely colored and elucidated by a sense of the past.

(Los Angeles Times)

Faith and the overthrow of apartheid

THE SPIRIT OF FREEDOM: South African Leaders on Religion and Politics by Charles Villa-Vencio, with a Foreword by Thomas C. Kazis. University of California Press. 301 pp. Price not stated.

By Dora Sowden

This is an extraordinary book. Professor Vencio has interviewed 21 men and women who have, one way or another, played a part in the overthrow of apartheid in South Africa, and since his departure at the University of Cape Town is Religion and Society

he has focused on faith in their lives.

The results are often more revealing than a full-length biography could be; the subjects range from Nelson Mandela, Nadine Gordimer and Desmond Tutu to Joe Slovo, Beyers Naudé and the rest.

Most of them claimed to be involved with religion in their early years - President Mandela is still a man of strong Christian faith, as of course is Bishop Desmond Tutu. Of the four Jews, the late Joe Slovo chose to call himself agnostic; Franz Arnsperg said he adhered to his community; Ray Alexander declared she had shed her religious belief; and Nadine Gordimer declared, "I am an

atheist." But Gordimer also stated that she had "a vocation to write." Ray Alexander, a staunch trade unionist, showed a certain hostility after an almost devout childhood, and condemned Zionism for taking the land from Palestinians - a regrettable distortion.

The ethnic variety among the 21 is also remarkable. A Gandhi, granddaughter of the immortal Mahatma, is a devoted Hindu, Fatima Meer is Moslem. Sheena Duncan, born in South Africa of Scottish parents, is an "activist" Presbyterian, and the others vary from priests to open freedom fighters.

Not to be forgotten in this number

is Archbishop Trevor Huddleston who was quietly recalled to England; but this book, *Naught for your Comfort*, is still worth rereading - as indeed this essay in this book is worth reading.

For one omission, Vencio's book has to be faulted. The name of the late Lewis Sowden is not mentioned, not in the bibliography nor even in a footnote. His *Land of Afternoon*, published in London and New York in 1969, was banned in South Africa for a few months, but as his passport had anyhow been withdrawn and he left to settle in Israel, there was no further fuss made. He died in Jerusalem in 1974.

STEIMATZKY'S BESTSELLING PAPERBACKS

1. *The Partner* by John Grisham. Dell, Arrow.
2. *Power Plays: Politics* by Tom Clancy and Martin Greenberg. Penguin, Berkley.
3. *Lying on the Couch* by Irvin D. Yalom. Harper Perennial.
4. *Secret Affairs* by Barbara Taylor Bradford. HarperCollins.
5. *SSN* by Tom Clancy. HarperCollins.
6. *Tycoon* by Harold Robbins. Pocket.
7. *Beyond Recall* by Robert Goddard. Corgi.
8. *Jack & Jill* by James Patterson. Warner, HarperCollins.
9. *Abuse of Power* by Nancy T. Rosenberg. Signet.
10. *Survival of the Fittest* by Jonathan Kellerman. Little Brown.

BOOK BYTES

Crime writer Ruth Rendell, 67, took her seat in Britain's Upper chamber of Parliament, the House of Lords, in November as Baroness Rendell of Babergh. Babergh is the English town that provides the setting for many of Rendell's whodunits.

She included a polar bear in her coat of arms, designed for the occasion. It is the first time any peer ever featured a polar bear in a coat of arms. She chose the animal because it is "her favorite." The popular author, according to reports, donated £10,000 (\$16,000) to Tony Blair's election fund. She was one of 31 newly appointed Labour peers chosen by Blair to redress the imbalance of the Conservatives' majority in the House of Lords. She intends to pursue literacy and education issues in her new role.

One wonders if Rendell will now write a murder mystery set among her upper-crust colleagues who ceremonially begin their life peccadegs dressed in crimson robes with ermine collars.

INTREPID world traveler Michael Palin, whose newest book, *Full Circle* (BBC), traces his journey anti-clockwise around the Pacific Rim, arrived 10 minutes late for an interview at London's Soho House. Palin apologized profusely. It seems the man, who circled the world in 80 days and took up the challenge of journeying from pole to pole, got lost. Asked where he planned his next adventure, Palin answered, "Maybe Soho would be a good start."

THE MIRACLE STRAIN (Bantam) demonstrates once again the "miracle" of how some authors win big in the publishing industry lottery. For first-time author Michael Cordy, the jackpot including film and foreign-language rights hit £1.5 million. "It

got silly," he commented.

One British paper cynically described the novel as "Jurassic Park meets the quest for the Holy Grail meets *Raiders of the Lost Ark*." The idea hit Cordy while vacationing in Tunisia in 1992 with his wife-to-be Jenny. "What if... scientists could get hold of the genes of Jesus Christ?" Hooked on his project, Cordy gave up his £70,000-a-year job plus car to write. "It took nine months to realize that I was writing a crap story," Two literary agencies, to whom he sent his early attempts, turned him down. "I don't blame them," he says, "I would have turned myself down." With Jenny's help he began to see the faults in his plot and dialogue. They "deconstructed" the book and knocked it together again. A literary agent, "a friend of a son of a friend of Cordy's mother," liked the book, took it on board and so the miracle began.

Cordy says of the money, "What it meant was, I could write another book! I don't want to lose that thrill of getting words on the page."

JOHN HORNER grew up in Shelby, Montana. He studied at Montana State, then returned home to work in the family sand-and-gravel business. His life took an unusual turn when Princeton University hired him as a "technician." The academic environment led him to dinosaur research, a mentorship at the Museum of the Rockies and an honorary doctorate.

Horner's latest book on reptilian evolution, *Dinosaur Lives* (HarperCollins), explodes the myth of *Tyrannosaurus rex*, the fearsome monster portrayed in *Jurassic Park* and *The Lost World*. The scientific evidence indicates that *T. rex* was, in fact, a rather slow and boring scavenger.

David Branner

HARDCOVER Fiction

1. *Cold Mountain* by Charles Frazier. (Atlantic Monthly \$24.) A Confederate soldier journeys home to meet an old love.
2. *The Ghost* by Danielle Steel. (Delacorte \$25.95.) On a trip to New England, a man finds answers to his problems in an old trunk.
3. *Cat & Mouse* by James Patterson. (Little, Brown \$24.95.) Alex Cross versus two serial killers.
4. *Another City, Not My Own* by Dominick Dunne. (Crown \$25.) The O.J. Simpson murder trial as witnessed by a journalist.
5. *The Letter* by Richard Paul Evans. (Simon & Schuster \$15.95.) In the last volume of the "Christmas Box" trilogy, the Parkin family recovers from the loss of a daughter.
6. *Violin* by Ann Rice. (Knopf \$26.95.) From 19th-century Vienna to present-day New Orleans: a demonic fiddler preys upon a woman who loves his music.
7. *Commencement* by Lory Melbury. (Simon & Schuster \$28.50.) Texas rangers, veterans of "Lone Star Wars," battle defiant Comanches determined to defend their way of life.
8. *Survival of the Fittest* by Jonathan Kellerman. (Bantam \$24.95.) Alex Delaware pursues the killer of a diplomat's teenage daughter.
9. *Lucky You* by Carl Hiaasen. (Knopf \$24.) A journalist undertakes to help a woman whose winning lottery ticket has been stolen.
10. *The Mazarine Countdown* by Robert Ludlum. (Bantam \$27.50.) A CIA officer struggles to thwart the return of an international cabal.

HARDCOVER Non-fiction

1. *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* by John Berendt. (Random House \$23.) The mysterious death of a young man in Savannah, Ga.
2. *The Man Who Listens to Horses* by Monty Roberts. (Random House \$23.) The memoirs of a horse trainer.
3. *Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt. (Scribner \$24.) An Irish-American recalls his childhood amid the miseries of Limerick.
4. *Citizen Soldiers* by Stephen E. Ambrose. (Simon & Schuster \$27.50.) The US Army from Normandy to the Bulge to Germany's surrender.
5. *The Perfect Storm* by Sebastian Junger. (Norton \$23.95.) An account of the nor'easter of 1991.
6. *The Dark Side of Camelot* by Seymour Hersh. (Little, Brown \$26.95.) A journalist's reappraisal of the private and public life of John F. Kennedy.
7. *Into Thin Air* by Jon Krakauer. (Villard \$24.95.) An account of the ascent of Mount Everest in 1996, the deadliest season in history.
8. *Dirty Jokes and Beer* by Drew Carey. (Hyperion \$22.95.) Observations on his life and life in general by the comedian.
9. *Diane's Her True Story - In Her Own Words* by Andrew Morton. (Simon & Schuster \$22.95.) The 1992 bestseller, updated and expanded.
10. *Conversations with God: Book One* by Neale Donald Walsch. (Putnam \$19.95.) Discussion of life and love, good and evil, guilt and sin.

PAPERBACK Fiction

1. *Tom Clancy's Power Plays: Politics* created by Tom Clancy and Martin Greenberg. (Berkley \$7.50.) In 1989, an American contends with terrorists threatening his business in Russia.
2. *Wizard and Glass* by Stephen King. (Plume \$17.95.) Volume 4 of *The Dark Tower*, a series about time and a heroic quest.
3. *Total Control* by David Baldacci. (Warner Vision \$7.50.) A woman's efforts to find her husband reveals the ways of big business.
4. *Sole Survivor* by Dean Kuntz. (Ballantine \$7.99.) A reporter searches for a woman who claims to know a secret about the plane crash that killed his family.
5. *Unfinished Symphony* by V.C. Andrews. (Pocket \$7.50.) Melody Logan goes to California in quest of her missing mother and stepfather.
6. *A Virtuous Woman* by Kaye Gibbons. (Vintage \$10.) The daughter of a Carolina gentry finds love with a tenant farmer.
7. *Alibi* by Michael Chrichton. (Ballantine \$7.99.) A young woman probes a plane's near disaster on its way from Hong Kong to Denver.
8. *The List* by Steve Martin. (Jove \$7.50.) A writer's scheme to get her novel on the bestseller list leads to murder and endangers her own life.
9. *Say You Love Me* by Johanna Lindsey. (Avon \$6.99.) In Regency England, a penniless orphan finds love after being hired as a maid.
10. *Ellen Foster* by Kaye Gibbons. (Village \$10.) A girl learns self-reliance growing up with widowed relatives in the backwoods South.

PAPERBACK Non-fiction

1. *Undaunted Courage* by Stephen E. Ambrose. (Touchstone/S&S \$16.) The story of how Thomas Jefferson sponsored Lewis and Clark.
2. *Under the Tuscan Sun* by Frances Mayes. (Broadway \$13.) A celebration of the Italian countryside by a poet.
3. *Underboss* by Peter Maas. (Harper Paperbacks \$6.99.) Life in the Mafia as lived by Salvatore (Sarmy the Bull) Gravano.
4. *The Color of Water* by James McBride. (Riverhead \$12.) A black writer and musician recalls growing up with his white mother in Brooklyn.
5. *A Civil Action* by Jonathan Harr. (Vintage \$13.) Householders sue industrial polluters.
6. *Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer. (Anchor/Doubleday \$12.95.) A young man's obsession with the wilderness ends tragically in Alaska.
7. *Girlfriends* by Carmen Renee Berry and Tamara Traister. (Wildcat Canyon \$12.95.) The ties that bind women of all ages.
8. *Hanson* by Jill Matthews. (Archway/Pocket \$3.99.) The story of the pop-rock group.
9. *Seven Years in Tibet* by Heinrich Harrer. (Bantam/Putnam \$13.95.) An Austrian mountaineer recounts his adventures in the 1940s.
10. *Reviving Ophelia* by Mary Pipher. (Ballantine \$12.50.) The everyday dangers that beset teenage girls.

PAPERBACK Miscellaneous

1. *Don't Sweat the Small Stuff... and It's All Small Stuff* by Richard Carlson. (Hyperion \$6.95.) How to enjoy life much more and contribute to the world we live in.
2. *Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul* compiled by Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen and Kimberly Kirberger. (Health Communications \$12.95.) Inspiration.
3. *Chicken Soup for the Mother's Soul* compiled by Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen, Jennifer Read Hawthorne, and Mard Shmoff. (Health Communications \$12.95.) Inspiration.
4. *Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul* compiled by Jack Canfield, et al. (Health Communications \$12.95.) Inspiration.

HARDCOVER Miscellaneous

1. *Joy of Cooking* by Irma S. Rombauer, Marion Rombauer Becker and Ethan Becker. (Scribner \$30.) Revision of the book first published in 1931.
2. *Simple Abundance* by Sarah Ban Breathnach. (Warner \$17.95.) Advice for women seeking to improve the way they look at themselves.
3. *Making Faces* by Kevin Kline. (Little, Brown \$29.95.) Counsel about cosmetics from a makeup artist.
4. *Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus* by John Gray. (HarperCollins \$25.) Improving communication and relationships.

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A united Jerusalem

The ugly walls that once snaked through the heart of a divided Jerusalem came thundering down in June 1967, but the struggle with those who would erect new barriers in the city has never really ended. The controversy over the Palestinian Authority's intention to include the Arab residents of Jerusalem in its general census is unquestionably part of that struggle. That is why Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's directive to Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani to do everything in his power to prevent the census being conducted in Jerusalem is entirely justified. Virtual walls, such as those implied by the census, are as much a challenge to Israeli sovereignty in Jerusalem as physical separations.

From a purely legal standpoint, the conduct of a Palestinian census in Jerusalem is also a violation of the provisions of the Oslo Accords. Jerusalem has specifically been mentioned in each of the agreements signed with the PLO since 1993 as one of the issues whose resolution is to be decided in the permanent-status negotiations. Until such time as a permanent-status agreement is reached, therefore, the status quo in Jerusalem is to be maintained. That status quo does not include PA governmental authority.

This claim is strengthened by the fact that the interim agreement delineates the borders of PA jurisdiction in Areas A and B, and restricts Palestinian governmental authority to those areas. Jerusalem is definitely outside those boundaries. It is true that Palestinians in Jerusalem were permitted by agreement to participate in the elections for the Palestinian Legislative Council two years ago. However, the provisions for this were clearly spelled out in the agreements as special one-time arrangements, and are not a precedent for further PA jurisdictional actions. The census is a PA attempt to extend its sovereignty claims in Jerusalem unilaterally in a way that prejudices the negotiations over permanent arrangements.

If there is any one issue on which it is possible to say that there is a solid Israeli consensus, it is that of maintaining the unity of Jerusalem. At first glance, it would appear that the policy of every Israeli government over the past 30 years to implement that consensus has been eminently successful. Demographically, there is a substantial Jewish majority in Jerusalem. The construction of Jewish neighborhoods has reached the point where there is now a Jewish majority even in eastern Jerusalem. With regard to the PA census, press reports from the last few days indicate that, in any event, the rate of participation in the census on the part of Palestinians in Jerusalem is

very low. This is because many fear that such participation would be construed as grounds for confiscating their much-coveted Israeli identity cards, which grant them free access to Israel and to social services provided by the state.

Nevertheless, as any visitor to Jerusalem can ascertain, there is a sense that a virtual divider still stands along the old armistice line on what is today Route No. 1. Crossing to the eastern part of town means crossing over to what feels like a different city, one in which the residents do not recognize the City Hall on Jaffa Road as being theirs. Years of neglect by the municipality of the Arab neighborhoods have caused them to look run-down and decrepit. The number of Israelis, including policemen, who regularly visit those parts of the city is almost nil, in contrast to the huge numbers who thronged there after the Six Day War. There is a sad lack of unity in Jerusalem where it counts the most, in the hearts and minds of the people who live there.

This state of affairs is due in no small part to the intifada, which broke out 10 years ago this week. The intifada, unlike the other Arab uprisings which preceded it over the past century, has undoubtedly been the catalyst for political change in the region. It instilled a sense of activist nationalism, mixed with religious overtones, in Palestinian society. It brought Palestinian grievances about Israel's administration of the territories to center stage in international forums. The creation of the Palestinian Authority is one of its ultimate results.

The intifada also took a heavy toll in lives and disrupted civil life. The education of an entire generation of Palestinians was stunted, and it was an economic disaster. Israelis who used to shop in Palestinian areas were literally scared away. And the PA turned out to be a brutal, authoritarian regime.

There are indications that the pendulum is now swinging in the other direction. Many Palestinians are weary of the sacrifices demanded by the intifada, and in general there is renewed interest in reestablishing commercial ties with Israelis, especially in Jerusalem. If Israel wants to maintain its claim of sovereignty over a united Jerusalem, it now needs to act like a sovereign. This means cleaning up and rehabilitating the run-down areas in the eastern part of the city and ensuring law and order there. If a positive enough atmosphere can be restored, Israelis might feel safe enough to visit all parts of the city again. That, more than anything else, would be the most meaningful contribution to unity that can be made.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DER SPIEGEL

Sir. — Messrs. Dan and Eisenberg's deductions on the role played by ex-ambassador Martin Indyk in the State Department may be right or wrong. I rather tend to agree with them on this part of their article.

However, to compare *Der Spiegel's* article on Prime Minister Netanyahu with *Der Stürmer* makes me feel ashamed for these two gentlemen. It is doubtful if either of them has ever

studied *Der Stürmer*. If they had they would not have written such libelous nonsense.

Der Spiegel quoted Prime Minister Netanyahu's own words: "The USA are depicting me as the Saddam Hussein of the West." *Der Spiegel* is one of the few news magazines left in the world, reporting objectively on Israel, even if it is not always to our liking.

If and when it is not, it should

give us cause to think. An apology is due to *Der Spiegel*.

BERNARD MOCH

Tel Aviv.

While it may be legitimate to criticize the headline, *The Jerusalem Post* regrets the unfair and inappropriate comparison of *Der Spiegel* with *Der Stürmer* made by Uri Dan and Dennis Eisenberg — Ed. JP.

WOULD-BE DICTATOR

Sir. — Under the direction of Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz, our nation — potentially the most beautiful on earth — has become a heaping mound of garbage.

Daily reports of large rodent sightings in residential areas remind us of the danger of disease and plague. Transportation, even patient-care grind senselessly to a halt. The public sector has been transformed into an

autocrat's playground. Banking, communications and essential services are unavailable because Amir Peretz called a general strike.

One finds this kind of autocracy in the day-to-day functioning of our neighbors and the Palestinian Authority, but one does not expect such behavior in the Middle East's scion of democracy.

At the age of fifty, it is high time that the state grow up and divest itself of such dangerous anachronisms as the Histadrut and would-be dictators such as Amir Peretz.

Otherwise, as events of the last few weeks indicate, our society is threatened with anarchy.

BEZALEL SCHENDOWICH
Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On December 11, 1932, *The Palestine Post* reported at length on the failed attempt carried out by a group of individuals to stir up an insurrection in Saudi Arabia, aimed against Ibn Saud's government.

50 years ago: On December 11, 1947, *The Palestine Post* reported that the UN Six-Nation Commission working on the status for a Free City of Jerusalem said that the UN would ensure the town's peace.

Two Jewish taxi drivers and a British policeman were wounded in a convoy driving to the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem.

Haifa became a battlefield again with explosions of grenades and shooting coming hot and heavy. Sixteen Arabs were reported killed and about 30 wounded in the previous four days. A British soldier was killed and four Jews injured

near an Arab cafe, the Metropole. Five young Jewish men and women walking across the Negev sands near their Gvulot settlement were shot and stabbed by Arab murderers. The Negev water-pipe was punctured while Hagana squads raided Haratia village and blew up a house from which snipers shot and killed three settlers four days earlier.

On the Tel Aviv-Jaffa border British troops and police confiscated weapons held by Hagana defenders explaining that there was no intention to turn over this section to the Hagana, but to the British-controlled Jewish police.

Eighteen Arab terrorist-prisoners escaped from the Acre Central Prison while all remaining 80 Jewish prisoners had been transferred to the Jerusalem Central Prison.

Arab Legionnaires were seen training Arabs, while their units took over guard duties at Lod

Airport, replacing British troops. Over 5,000 men from all over the world, including Germans, were reported to have offered their services to the Arab League.

25 years ago: On December 11, 1972, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that the arrested members of the alleged Arab-Jewish-Syrian sabotage and espionage group had planned to assassinate "chauvinistic" Israeli leaders with Defense Minister Moshe Dayan high on their list. Two of the group's alleged members were Ehud "Udi" Adiv, a former kibbutznik, and Dan Vered, a lonely intellectual. They were reported to belong to "Israel Socialist Organization" established in Jerusalem in 1962.

A house razed by the Romans when they overran Jerusalem in the year 70 CE was found by an archaeological team in the Old City's Jewish quarter.

Alexander Zivelli



Gil's public outing

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

Golan Heights? Why else does he maintain some of his crack divisions on Israel's northern border and is spending a fortune buying missiles to reach every corner of Israel?

Minister of Defense Yitzhak Mordechai has joined the fray, aided by army intelligence, declaring that his officers never paid much attention to Mossad information, preferring to trust its own sources. Just in case one missed the point, Mordechai let it be known

Mossad head Danny Yatom is attempting to use Gil as a scapegoat to save his own skin

that the military did not take decisions based on a duplicitous source.

True, a rivalry exists between army intelligence and the Mossad, as it does in other countries between different security branches. Even so, Mordechai's memory is playing him tricks. Has he forgotten the devastating blunder by the chief of army intelligence prior to the 1973 Yom Kippur War? This officer declared the Arabs would not dare attack Israel. The no-war scenario was contradicted by over 400 reports made by Mossad agents who warned of a joint Egyptian-Syrian invasion.

Mordechai will surely recall how the "peaceful" Syrian tanks swept down from the Golan Heights in a bid to seize the Galilee. Perhaps he should use a little more restraint today when he uses the word "duplicitous."

Ha'aretz in turn plucks in with its headline: "Agent's lies nearly caused two wars." Other press reports claim that Gil's war-mongering persuaded Yitzhak Rabin not to seek peace with Assad, but instead to do so with Arafat. Can any one really believe that Israel or any other country would go to war on the word of only one agent without checking elsewhere?

In contempt of court

NATHAN LEWIN

American counterpart of Amir Peretz. The president of the United Mine Workers of America, a fiery beetle-browed labor leader named John L. Lewis, made a career of defying the federal government and the courts. Coal-mining was an essential industry in post-World War II America, and Lewis's militant wage and pension demands, backed up by frequent walk-outs,

Israel's detractors will cite the recent general strike and the Histadrut's flouting of court orders as proof that it is truly a banana republic

threatened to disrupt the economic transition from war to peace. President Harry Truman ordered the federal government to take over America's coal mines in May 1946. This led to the signing of a labor contract between Lewis and the secretary of the interior.

Lewis unilaterally terminated the contract five months later and demanded better terms for his union members. The government claimed the agreement was still in effect but agreed to negotiate. In order to strengthen his hands in the new talks, Lewis called a national strike. The government went to court to prevent the strike and, without notifying Lewis or giving him an opportunity to be heard, a district judge issued an order prohibiting the strike for a period of 10 days. Lewis ignored the order and struck.

IN reality, neither Rabin nor Peretz took any notice of the Syrian war threat, at least in this period. They were quite ready to hand back the entire Golan Heights without President Assad firing back a single bullet. Why should Assad go to war when he was being presented with what he wanted on plate? In this instance Mordechai was correct. Under the circumstances, there was no war threat at the time.

Politicians with an ax to grind also leap maliciously into the affair: Labor MK Benjamin Ben-Eliezer said: "I have difficulty in sleeping at night, knowing that false information was given by a man with ideological-political considerations." This smearing of Gil as a provocateur is based on the thesis that he is a right-wing fanatic. If Ben-Eliezer has such a delicate conscience, we wonder how many sleepless nights he spends thinking about the "ideological-political" provocations of GSS agent Avishai Rabin, who this day is as free as a bird despite egging on Yigal Amir into assassinating Rabin.

We return to our opening question: Why is Gil being hung on the gallows of public attention? The answer is clear: Danny Yatom is praised in the media for revealing Gil's plunge into disgrace. It is an attempt to show the dreadful mess the Mossad finds itself in today. And that he is the "hair of the dog" to cure its ills.

Clearly, Yatom is fearful of being damaged by the findings of the inquiry into October's Khaleel Maassab fiasco in Jordan. Via media leaks and through the mouths of friends, Yatom is attempting to use Gil as a scapegoat to save his own skin. To put it mildly, this is less than honorable mode of conduct by a man who has illusions of being the ideal chief of the country's major intelligence service.

We recently called upon Yatom to resign. His present maneuvering makes this an even more imperative move on his part — for the sake of the future of the Mossad. He should let an experienced and professional intelligence expert take over this vital role.

The writers are Jerusalem Post columnists.

Minority rule

LARRY DERFNER

After this last strike by the Histadrut, all the PR men, political consultants and image-polishers ought to go home. They turned out to be useless. The strikers gave them and everyone else a lesson in what constitutes power and what doesn't.

The Histadrut is one of the most hated institutions in Israel. The public was against the strike, according to a weekend *Ma'ariv* poll, by a 2-1 margin. Nobody understood what the union's pension grievance was about. Did it matter?

And it wasn't just the public that opposed the Histadrut. The prime minister, the finance minister, the whole government wanted to crush it (while the Labor Party basically stood back and watched). The court "ordered" the union back to work. The attorney-general wanted to prosecute Histadrut leader Amir Peretz. President Weizman leaned all his weight on Peretz to call off the strike, and, in their private talks, probably smacked him on the head a couple of times.

It counted for nothing. The Histadrut fought a hugely unpopular fight against the whole country, and won it in five days.

Why? Because the workers had blood in their eyes. Because they were willing to suffer and cause suffering, to holler, to rumble, to burn, to incur people's contempt. Because they believed totally in their cause, and were ready to take large risks, to go all the way, to win.

What does this tell us about the importance of public opinion, of building consensus agreement, of winning friends and influencing people?

This is what bourgeois society believes in. To the prudent mind of the middle-class, this is what runs the show. They even teach their children this wisdom.

But they're wrong. Bourgeois society craves order. It hates dis-

Maybe power rightfully belongs to those willing to exert themselves for their beliefs

comfort. It doesn't care too much about right and wrong, isn't too interested in politics, and above all isn't prepared to put itself out for a fight.

So when true believers, even a minority, even if they're terribly unpopular, get worked up to where they're ready to take pain in order to cause more pain, to disrupt public life, and to escalate their disruptions until they get their way, then bourgeois society is fairly helpless. It becomes only a matter of time until society's caretakers — "the establishment" — surrender.

THE Histadrut strike wasn't the only evidence of this. Look at the haredim.

Ehud Barak is now saying that if he gets elected, he'll draft yeshiva students into the army. What a popular, vote-getting idea! I'd like to see him try to do it. The haredim would make holy war in this country. Barak would have to order a general call-up to have enough armed men on the streets to cope with the riots.

What would he do — arrest 300,000 haredim? Forget it. Israeli society doesn't have nearly the heart for this kind of fight. The yeshiva boys are staying right where they are, no matter who runs the government.

So it may be, I'm afraid, with Gush Emunim settlers. The power of this ideologically enflamed minority is, to my mind, the worst obstacle we have to making peace with the Palestinians, even worse than the dispute over Jerusalem.

There are about 30,000 radical settlers living in outposts surrounded by Palestinians throughout the heart of the West Bank. I don't see how we can make peace as long as they stay put, and I think a majority of Israelis might, in theory at least, be in favor of moving them out if the time came.

But in practice, what would the consequences be? Most likely a violent rebellion. Is Israeli society up for that? Not even close. You go figure out a successful end to the peace process, I can't.

It doesn't seem right that striking workers, draft-dodging haredim and extremist settlers should be able to thwart the will of the majority, does it? But maybe power rightfully belongs to those willing to exert themselves for their beliefs. Maybe a flaccid, malleable society doesn't deserve to get its way.

Whatever it is bourgeois society loves, it could well be that justice loves passion more than it does public opinion.

The writer is a Jerusalem Post columnist.

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Weekender

How would you direct Oscar night?

Showbiz producers suggest alternative ways to present the Academy Awards

By SUSAN KING

The producer of the 70th annual Academy Awards is due to be named any day now, and the rumored favorite is Gilbert Cates, who has produced the three-hour-plus extravaganza for seven of the last eight years — and won an Emmy Award for the 1991 show.

As always, whoever gets the job is in for a lot of hard work — and a lot of Tuesday morning quarterbacking.

While an estimated one billion people around the world reportedly love to watch the Oscar cast each year, a huge chunk of that audience also loves to gripe about it.

The Academy didn't ask for any reviews, but in the spirit of holiday giving, here's some anyway.

The *Los Angeles Times* asked veteran producers how they would put on the Oscar show. One thing nearly all agreed: They would solicit advice from Cates, that most expert of Oscar producers. That's what he is, what they say.

Cossette, longtime producer of the Grammy Awards and producer of the *Academy Awards*, calls *The Will Rogers Follies* and the currently running *The Scarlet Pimpernel*.

"I would move the Oscars to Madison Square Garden in New York City. MovieLand was New York first, and then it was Hollywood. It would be a shot heard around the world. We would have 16,000 screaming fans and when the stars talked, you would be able to hear a pin drop. It's the communications center of the world, and it would be the biggest Oscar celebration in history."

It would be the same general kind of show. The set would be every bit as beautiful, if not more beautiful. I did this last year with the Grammy Awards. Of course, the Oscars, they would take it a lot more opulence because it's the nature of the beast.

"If I did a theme, I would base it on a granddaddy theme. New York is the granddaddy of music, vaudeville, concerts, radio, motion pictures, television and public life. It's where it all started."

There will be a lot of motion picture people who will faint when they read this. "How can you take it out of Hollywood?" Doing this from New York would be a very, very strong idea, and it would have to be a very, very strong idea, and it would have to be a very, very strong idea that is exactly what I would do."

Gary L. Padney, producer of *The World Music Awards* and a former senior vice-president in charge of specials at ABC.

"The public is interested more than anything in the stars, so the more stars the better. I would try to encompass ways to get more star power up on that stage. I would try to have a reunion of past Oscar winners so that you would do a parade of stars."

"The arrival ceremony of the

stars is something that could be elongated slightly. You can't get enough of that kind of thing."

"I'd double up on presenters. The gimmick there is that it gives you two or three more stars on stage. I don't think viewers are as interested in what movie won as in the stars making these presentations."

"I would try to retain Billy Crystal as host. Billy is terrific."

"When I was at ABC, one of the things I was most proud of was that I persuaded Johnny Carson to host the Oscars. Here is a guy who reacts incredibly on his feet to anything that happens. Billy is the same way."

"I think the non-production musical numbers work better. You would certainly highlight the nominated songs. I would like to have major vocalists perform the songs, like Celine Dion and Whitney Houston; and if the songs warranted it, I would ask Luciano Pavarotti."

"A theme always helps with the formation of the show. Let's face it, the theme of the show is the movies. Clips are wonderful."

"I would certainly prefer, if I were doing it, to have it in the [Los Angeles] Music Center, as opposed to the Shrine. I think it's a more elegant center. I'm not so sure it wouldn't be an interesting idea to have a live satellite feed from New York, too. There are always Oscar parties and Oscar functions in New York. It would be interesting to give it a little texture."

George Schlatter, producer of *The American Comedy Awards* and of the series *Laugh-In* and *The 25th Anniversary of the Jerry Lewis MDA Labor Day Telethon*.

"I think if somebody put the Oscars in my lap, the first thing I'd do is hire Gil Cates to produce and then I'd try to convince Billy Crystal to host it and then I'd hire writers Hal Kanter and Baz Kogan and Bruce Vilanch and I'd give them a chance to do what they could do."

"The problem is, unless the Oscars change the structure, it will stay as it is — and it should. The big dilemma would be: Is this a television show or an industry event being broadcast on television. If you did it as a television event, it would still celebrate the Academy Awards but it would be written, paced staged and presented more for television."

"I'm not sure they should, though, because I'm a big fan of the Oscars. I enjoy it and I realize that a huge group of very talented, intelligent, passionate people work very, very well, and maybe it ought to be left alone."

"But if they were going to change it, I would reduce the amount of honorary awards and cut a lot of the longer speeches."

"There are only four actor awards, so I think I would add some awards to that. I would definitely add a comedy award. I think if there is a flaw in the Academy



The best host? Billy Crystal, seen here rehearsing a routine for the 1993 Oscars

Awards, it's that their devotion to comedy ends as soon as they set the host."

"I think the arrivals are wonderful and I would allow more time for that. I would do more backstage activity."

"If they put some of the technical awards on the night before, you would allow more room for the backstage activity, more room for on-stage accidents to happen — like

when Billy Crystal introduced Mack Sennett and the sound didn't work, he took the time to say, 'He's been working in silence for years.'"

David L. Wolper, producer of the opening and closing ceremonies of the 1984 Olympic Games and of the 1986 Olympic Week. Executive producer of the miniseries *Roots*, *The Thorn Birds* and *North & South*.

"I was offered it at one time. I

did the Olympics and Liberty Weekend and that was enough. If I was offered it again, I probably would not accept it. Not that I don't respect the Academy, but it's a tough task. It's a thankless job. You donate your time and everybody picks on you."

The fellow who is doing it now, Gil Cates, is doing a very good job. It's distinguished."

(Los Angeles Times)

Booze in the 'hood

By TRACY FISKE

Shh. Be very quiet. Nahlat's new and only pub, a sign reads: "Don't make noise."

There's another reason to keep your voice down. Hidden away behind a window draped with thick, dark curtains, Rosa's remains one of Jerusalem's best-guarded secrets. And it's clear why. Those who have had the pleasure of unwinding in this cozy, aesthetic bar will undoubtedly want to keep this treasure all to themselves — and a few close friends, of course.

So remember, you didn't hear it from me. Rosa's is located on a small street branching out of the Mahaneh Yehuda market. Osnat (her middle name is Rosa) and Farid opened the establishment about a month and a half ago. They can be found nightly behind the bar, pouring drinks and greeting customers with complimentary snacks. Rosa's opened on the heels of Rafi's, a new coffee shop located near Bezalel Street. Rafi's puffed the first breaths of life back into the neighborhood's atrophying scene, and now Nahlat has its very own pub as well. "People in this neighborhood were looking for a local bar. We wanted to open something different. Away from the bars and clubs downtown," Osnat says.

The place is small and intimate. The decor sets Rosa's apart from any bar I've been to in the city. An eclectic mix of styles — which Osnat, working with an architect, dreamed up on her own — seems to effortlessly merge together, adding up to one attractive, funky whole. The walls are painted in warm shades of yellow and blue. On one wall, an image of three Renaissance women is imposed upon textured splashes of blue. The lighting is soft — single-lamped fixtures dangle from the ceiling as does a large, iron, electric-light candelabra. The Armenian-style floor lends a certain feeling unique to Jerusalem, and perhaps Nahlat itself. One slide, which changes nightly, is projected on the wall behind the bar. Why? "Because I love photographs," says Osnat.

Rosa's offers a small menu of light Middle Eastern fare. Some of the items are for NIS 5; labane, NIS 15; and stuffed vine leaves, NIS 15.

The drink selection is, in a word, impressive. Shelves artistically constructed into and on the walls showcase a wide variety of imported labels — J&B, Jameson's, Yeagermeister and Remy Martin to name a few. The menu has a complete listing of all the brands, divided into bourbons, malts, gins, vodkas, tequilas, brandies and rums. Goldstar and Heineken are on tap, for NIS 10 to NIS 15. A glass of the house wine, white or red, is NIS 11. Coffee and tea are also available.

The clientele seems to be a mix of students and locals from the neighborhood. While most appear young and cosmopolitan, the bar is frequented by all types. "I want it to be ageless," says Osnat.

Although Rosa's opens early in the evening, it doesn't fill up till 11 or 12. There is a "happy three hours" on Fridays from 1 to 4 p.m. Unwinding with a cocktail to the soft grooves of Latin jazz or quirky rock-god Beck seems to me like the perfect antidote to a Friday morning of fighting and haggling your way through the *shuk*.

The pub is closed on Shabbat. This was never a question, Osnat says. "When you open a local bar, you have to be part of the neighborhood." And like the rest of Nahlat, there are many religious families who dwell in the immediate environs — right upstairs as a matter of fact.

So the word is out on Rosa's. But I'm not the only one singing its praises for all to hear. Caroline, a Jerusalemite originally from England, has been beard telling friends: "This is a really beautiful bar, full of beautiful men and beautiful women. If it were in London, it would be on Portobello Road."

Rosa's, 2 Hadekel Street, Jerusalem

Books on my mind

Political activist Nadia Matar talks about her favorite books

Nadia Matar, born in Antwerp 31 years ago, lives in Efrat with her husband, David, and their four children. A natural-born Zionist, her mother quips that little Nadia said "Israel" before she said "Mama" or "Dada." She is co-chair, with her mother-in-law, Ruth Matar, of Women in Green, whose goal is to fight the Oslo agreements. Comprised of women from all walks of life and all streams of Judaism, they stage peaceful demonstrations to say No to the Green Line (pre-1967 borders) and Yes to the green land "that is our birthright." Officially named Women for Israel's Tomorrow, they were dubbed "Women in Green" by journalists because of the green hats they wear.

Matar's favorite books reflect the concerns to which she's dedicated her life.

1. *The Tanach*

"This is a great treasure. A never-ending source of inspiration, it reveals the roots of Jewish history and is an excellent book on psychology from which you can learn about interpersonal relationships. It offers great insight into ethics and morality. We teach our children from it. You can always fit the Tanach into matters of daily life or current events."

2. *Letters to an American Friend* by Hillel Halkin

"I read this in my early 20s. It is a passionate description of why one should make aliya. The author stresses that for a Jew to understand Jewish history, he or she must come to Israel. I don't agree with everything he says, but I fully agree with his main premise: Jews belong in Israel."

3. *1984* by George Orwell

"I read it in high school — in Flemish! I was so taken by the power of 'Big Brother.' It is a very scary book, which I read in one day. I was amazed at how someone could describe the way a government can have such control. I've used it as an example to describe the situation in Israel, until quite recently. And it was always at the back of my mind

when I was involved in demonstrations for Soviet refuseniks."

4. *From Time Immemorial: The Origins of the Arab-Israeli Conflict over Israel* by Joan Peters

"This was written, interestingly enough, in 1984. The author is a non-Jew who came to Israel to prove that the land belongs to the Palestinians. After seven years of research, she discovered that the land belongs to the Jewish people. She shows that the Arabs displaced the Jews in Palestine. It is packed with details, maps, and fascinating historical data. The fact that it was written by a non-Jew gives it all the more credibility. I would recommend that it be included in the school curriculum, for both Jews and Arabs. A lot of our youth can't participate in a debate about our land because they don't know the facts."



Efrain Klichuk

5. *A Place Among the Nations* by Binyamin Netanyahu

"Netanyahu once said, 'If you want to know who I am, read this book.' So I read the book. He talks about our historical right to this land. The major guideline is that we cannot allow terror to influence our decisions. The Arab nations will respect us when we finally respect ourselves as Jews and be proud of our Jewish heritage. I wish our PM the strength to stick to what he wrote. I am often tempted to send him a copy to refresh his memory."

— Ruth Beloff-Begun

Hot tip

By KAREN SULKIS

Tel Aviv Area

The Benai Tel Quartet, with saxophonist Tal, keyboard player Tal Hepter, bass guitarist Tom Moss and drummer Yigal Baran perform jazz jams tonight in an intimate setting. Music starts at 10:30 at Kessit, 5 Rabin Square. Call 522-3244.

Take a trip to the big crater near Dimona with the Green Group. In conjunction with the Ecological Association of Israel, the social group is organizing an all-day trek that starts bright and early Saturday morning. Call 604-3307, (051) 988379 or (052) 310714.

The English-Speaking Residents Association hosts a meeting of its widowed persons social group. The get-together starts tonight at 7 at Cafe Traklin, Beit Hasofer, 6 Kaplan Street. Call 643-6034.

Following the meeting, but open to the public, is a jazz concert with singer Bar Gendelman, guitarist Shai Chen, bassist Uri Shamir and percussionist Ohad Lustigman. The music starts at 10. Also at Traklin, in Beit Hasofer, 6 Kaplan. Call 691-4156.

Recycling is the theme of a musical program tonight at the Tel

Aviv Culture Center, located high atop the Gan Ha'ir shopping complex. The show starts at 9.

The Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company performs Rami Be'er's *Memorandum*, tonight at 9 in the Suzanne Dellal Center.

Jerusalem

Got a thing for amateur comedians? Are you under 35 but old enough to drive? Then tonight's comedy coffeehouse program at Mercat Hamagshimim community center should make you smile. The fun starts at 9, and your bargain entry fee (NIS 20 or less) gets you food and drinks too. At 7A Rehov Dor V'Dorshav in the German Colony. Call 561-9233.

Musicians from abroad (thank you, Amir Peretz) join local artists for a Mediterranean program.

Tonight at 9 at the Jerusalem Theater.

The Center for Conservative Judaism is hosting an art history course this morning, beginning at 10:45. Maxine Blendis presents *Dreamers of Jerusalem*, in celebration of the nation's 50th anniversary. 2-4 Agron Street. Call 625-6386.

X-Bit performs jazz for a lazy Friday afternoon. Tomorrow from 2:30 to 4 at the Lev Smadar Theater. Call 561-8168.

And Points Beyond

Haifa's renowned Arab Theater performs Nobel laureate Dario Fo's absurdist *The Accidental Death of an Anarchist*. Tonight at 8:30 at Haifa's Stage Two.

For all those who decided to take their vacations in this country — or who couldn't get out — Miki

Karni performs tonight at the Satchmo Jazz Bar in the Dan Hotel, Eilat. Call 636-2294.

Television

If you like being depressed, then you'll love *Sophie's Choice*. If Meryl Streep's Oscar-winning, multilingual leading role doesn't rip your heart out then you and the Tin Man have more in common than you'd thought. Alan Pakula's production airs tonight at 9:15 on Channel 3 (33).

If nasty parodies of the culture of celebrity are more up your alley, then don't miss *To Die For* tonight at 10:04 on Channel 2. Nicole Kidman — yes, Nicole Kidman — works wonders with Buck Henry's deliciously vicious script, and Matt Dillon gets his Who could ask for anything more?

Weekender Food & Drink

The gift of chocolate

These rich chocolate desserts will receive top scores. But don't just take our word for it. We provide testimony from an admitted chocoholic.

By GREG PATENT
and MARGE PERRY

There are all kinds of chocolate delicacies, from home-made goodies brought in to share at the office to fancy desserts served at parties. But some of it, well, let's just be polite, I could do without. To me, milk chocolate is like a glass of fine Bordeaux cut with a jigger of water - what's the point? Hey, if I want milk with my chocolate, I'll drink it, thank you very much.

Every precious bite of chocolate should permeate my senses, and my toes, overwhelm me with its chocolaty-ness. Give me deep, rich chocolate - no wimpy milk stuff for me. I want my chocolate good enough to die for, but I also want to stay healthy and fit.

Big problem? I thought so until I made a batch of fudgy chocolate brownies. They have the intense semisweet-chocolate flavor I love - no gummy fake-fat texture, no watered-down light chocolate flavor. This is the real thing: big flavor for chocolate lovers like me. But it's also for the fat-wary, calorie-conscious me who knows the effects traditional brownies have on my ability to zip my dress.

The brownies get a lot of their full chocolate flavor from Dutch-process cocoa, which (like cocoa in general) has far less fat and fewer calories than baking and eating chocolate. Dutch-process cocoa is treated with alkali to neutralize its acidity, intensifying the chocolate flavor and color with a fraction of the fat and calories. (You can substitute regular or American cocoa, but it tends to have a slightly bitter aftertaste and a lighter, beige-like color). Most of our recipes augment cocoa with a little semisweet or bittersweet chocolate to achieve the desired texture and deepen the chocolate flavor.

Cocoa gives our easy fudge layer cake a roasted, earthy-brown color. This elegant cake is an ideal ending for a formal dinner. And no one has to know that you simply dump the ingredients in the mixer, pour the batter into cake pans and let it bake for a half-hour.

Our double-chocolate cream tart may be low in fat and calories, but there's nothing light about the flavor - or the passion you'll experience when the first forkful of dense, pudding-like chocolate and smooth cream topping hits your palate. Yet with only 256 calories a serving, it's a sin you can indulge in guilt-free. The key to the filling is the combination of fat-free sweetened condensed milk and light cream cheese with the cocoa.

The devilish indulgences following are for devoted chocolate lovers only. But partake with abandon: your little nutrition angel within will be delighted.

DOUBLE-CHOCOLATE CREAM TART

1 cup all-purpose flour, divided
1/4 cup ice water
1 Tbsp. vanilla extract, divided
1/4 cup Dutch-process or unsweetened cocoa, divided
2 Tbsp. sugar
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 cup vegetable shortening
cooking spray
420 gr. canned fat-free sweetened condensed milk
180 gr. low-fat cream cheese (about 1/2 cup), softened
1 large egg
1/4 cup egg white
1 1/2 cups frozen reduced-calorie whipped topping, thawed
30 gr. semisweet chocolate, finely chopped

Preheat oven to 175°.

Combine 1/4 cup flour, ice water and 1 tsp. vanilla, stirring with a whisk until well-blended; set aside. Combine 1/4 cup flour, 1/4 cup cocoa, sugar and salt in a bowl; cut in shortening with a pastry blender or 2 knives until mixture resembles coarse meal. Add ice water mixture; toss with a fork until moist and crumbly (do not form a ball).

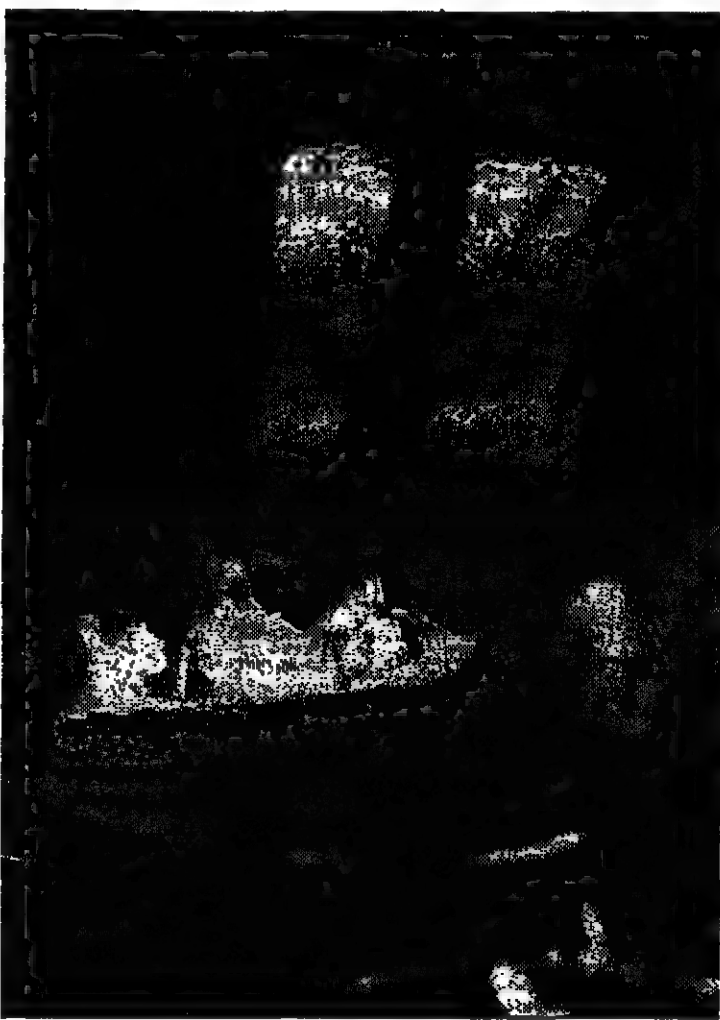
Gently press mixture into a 10-cm. circle on heavy-duty plastic wrap; cover with additional plastic wrap. Roll dough, still covered, into a 33-cm. circle. Place dough

in freezer 30 minutes or until plastic wrap can be easily removed. Remove top sheet of plastic wrap; fit dough, uncovered side down, into a 25-cm. round removable-bottom tart pan coated with cooking spray. Remove remaining sheet of plastic wrap. Fold edges under; flute.

Pierce bottom and sides of dough with a fork and bake at 175° for 4 minutes. Cool on a wire rack. Place tart pan on a baking sheet; set aside.

white mixture into chocolate mixture; repeat procedure with remaining egg white mixture, one quarter at a time. Spoon into prepared pan. Bake at 150° for 1 hour or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out almost clean.

Cool completely on wire rack. Remove sides from pan and sift powdered sugar over cake. Garnish with raspberries and chocolate curls, if desired. (Serves 12.)



Best remaining cocoa and milk at medium speed of a mixer until blended. Add cheese and beat well. Add remaining vanilla, egg and egg white; beat just until smooth. Pour mixture into crust; bake at 175° for 25 minutes or until set. (Do not overbake.) Cool completely on a wire rack.

Spread whipped topping over tart and sprinkle with chopped chocolate. (Serves 12.)

DARK-CHOCOLATE SOUFFLE CAKE
Cake flour is a fine-textured, soft wheat flour with a high starch content. 1/4 cup all-purpose flour may be used in place of 1/3 cup cake flour.

cooking spray
1/4 cup granulated sugar
1/4 cup packed dark brown sugar
1/4 cup water
1 Tbsp. instant espresso or 2 Tbsp. instant coffee granules
1/4 cup Dutch-process or unsweetened cocoa
1/4 tsp. salt
60 gr. semisweet chocolate, chopped
60 gr. unsweetened chocolate, chopped
2 Tbsp. Kahlua (coffee-flavored liqueur)
3 large egg yolks
1/4 cup sifted cake flour
6 large egg whites (at room temperature)
1/4 tsp. cream of tartar
1/4 cup granulated sugar
1 Tbsp. powdered sugar
1/4 cup raspberries (optional)
chocolate curls (optional)

Preheat oven to 150°.

Coat bottom of a 23 cm. spring-form pan with cooking spray. Set aside.

Combine 1/4 cup granulated sugar, brown sugar, water and espresso in a large saucepan; stir well and bring to a boil. Remove from heat and add cocoa, salt and chocolate, stirring with a whisk until chocolate melts. Stir in Kahlua and egg yolks. Stir in flour and cool to room temperature. Set aside.

Beat egg whites and cream of tartar at high speed of a mixer until foamy. Add 1/4 cup granulated sugar, a tablespoon at a time, beating until stiff peaks form. Gently fold one quarter of egg-

EASY FUDGE LAYER CAKE
This recipe holds true to its name: It is super-easy to make.

cooking spray
1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
1 1/4 cups skim milk
1/4 cup granulated sugar
1/4 cup packed dark brown sugar
1/4 cup Dutch-process or unsweetened cocoa
1/4 cup vegetable shortening
1 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. baking soda
2 tsp. vanilla extract
1/4 tsp. salt
3 large eggs
chocolate-cream cheese frosting

Preheat oven to 175°.

Coat two 20-cm. round cake pans with cooking spray and then line bottoms of pans with wax paper. Coat wax paper with cooking spray and set pans aside.

Combine flour and other ingredients - except for frosting - in a large bowl; beat at low speed of a mixer 30 seconds or until ingredients are moist. Beat mixture at medium speed 2 minutes or until well-blended.

Pour batter into prepared pans. Sharply tap pans once on the counter to remove air bubbles. Bake at 175° for 30 minutes or until cake springs back when touched lightly in center. Cool in pans 5 minutes on a wire rack. Loosen layers from sides of pans using a narrow metal spatula and turn out onto wire racks. Peel off wax paper and cool completely.

Place 1 cake layer on a plate and spread with 1/4 cup chocolate-cream cheese frosting. Top with remaining cake layer; spread remaining frosting on sides and top of cake. Cover and chill at least 1 hour. (Serves 18.)

CHOCOLATE-CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

125 gr. low-fat cream cheese
2 Tbsp. margarine, softened
3/4 cup sifted powdered sugar
1/4 cup Dutch-process or unsweetened cocoa
1/4 tsp. salt
1 tsp. vanilla extract

Beat first 3 ingredients in a large bowl at high speed of a mixer until

smooth. Combine sugar, cocoa and salt. Gradually add sugar mixture to cheese mixture, beating at low speed until well-blended. Add vanilla and beat well. Cover and chill. (Makes 1 1/4 cups.)

CHOCOLATE SOUFFLES WITH WHITE CHOCOLATE-RUM SAUCE

butter-flavored cooking spray
2 Tbsp. sugar
1 1/4 cups skim milk
1/4 cup sugar
1/4 cup Dutch-process or unsweetened cocoa
3 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
1/4 tsp. salt
30 gr. semisweet chocolate
3 large egg yolks
6 large egg whites
1/4 tsp. cream of tartar
1/4 cup sugar
100 gr. bar premium white chocolate, chopped
2 Tbsp. skim milk
1 Tbsp. white rum

Preheat oven to 205°.

Coat 8 ramekins with cooking spray and sprinkle with 2 Tbsp. sugar. Place on a baking sheet; set aside.

Combine 1 1/4 cups milk, 1/4 cup sugar, cocoa, flour and salt in a large saucepan. Cook 5 minutes over medium-high heat, stirring constantly with a whisk until mixture thickens and comes to a boil. Cook an additional 30 seconds, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and add semisweet chocolate, stirring until melted.

Gradually add chocolate mixture to egg yolks, stirring well. Return mixture to pan. Cook 2 minutes over medium heat, stirring constantly. Spoon mixture into a large bowl; cool to room temperature, stirring occasionally.

Beat egg whites and cream of tartar at high speed of a mixer until foamy. Add 1/4 cup sugar, a tablespoon at a time, beating until stiff peaks form. Gently fold one quarter of egg white mixture into chocolate mixture. Gently fold in remaining egg white mixture.

Spoon batter evenly into prepared ramekins. Bake soufflés at 205° for 20 minutes or until puffy and set.

Combine white chocolate and 2 Tbsp. milk in a small saucepan; cook over low heat until chocolate melts. Remove from heat; stir in rum.

Cut into each souffle with a spoon; pour 1 Tbsp. sauce over each souffle. Serve immediately. (Serves 8.)

BITTERSWEET CHOCOLATE PUDDING

3 1/2 cups skim milk, divided
1 cup Dutch-process or unsweetened cocoa
3 Tbsp. cornstarch
1/4 tsp. salt
1 cup sugar
1 large egg, lightly beaten
1 large egg yolk, lightly beaten
60 gr. bittersweet chocolate, coarsely chopped
1 Tbsp. vanilla extract

Combine 1 cup milk, cocoa, cornstarch and salt in a large bowl. Stir well with a whisk. Set aside.

Cook 2 1/2 cups milk in a large, heavy saucepan over medium-high heat until tiny bubbles form around edge (do not boil). Remove milk from heat; stir in sugar with a whisk until sugar dissolves. Add cocoa mixture to pan, stirring until blended. Bring to a boil over medium heat; cook 2 minutes, stirring constantly.

Combine egg and egg yolk in a bowl, stirring well with a whisk. Gradually add milk mixture to egg mixture, stirring constantly. Return mixture to pan. Cook over medium heat until thick, about 2 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat.

Stir in chocolate and vanilla. Stir until chocolate melts. Serve warm or chilled. (Serves 8.)

FUDGY CHOCOLATE BROWNIES

The technique for these brownies is a bit unorthodox. When you add the sugar and cocoa to the melted chocolate, it forms a ball that is hard to stir. But stick with it; the end results are well worth it.

5 Tbsp. margarine
30 gr. unsweetened chocolate
1/4 cup Dutch-process or unsweetened cocoa
1 1/4 cups sugar
3 large egg whites
1 large egg
1 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 cup baking powder
cooking spray

Preheat oven to 160°.

Melt margarine and chocolate in a large saucepan over medium heat. Stir in cocoa and cook 1 minute. Stir in sugar and cook 1 minute. (Mixture will almost form a ball and be difficult to stir.) Remove pan from heat; cool slightly.

Beat together egg whites and egg. Gradually add warm chocolate mixture to eggs, stirring with a whisk until well-blended. Combine flour and baking powder; add flour mixture to chocolate mixture, stirring well.

Spoon batter into a 23-cm. square baking pan coated with cooking spray. Bake at 160° for 30 minutes (do not overbake). Cool on a wire rack and cut into 20 bars.

(Creators Syndicate, Inc.)

Wine Cellar



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Phyllis's Tips

Poor pizza (avoid)
Pizza Makpiza might be the first kosher lehavadin pizza in Israel, but that doesn't make it good. The good news, however, is that the new products produced by Ma'adanot are available in single slice or family size and contain no preservatives (but then, neither do most other frozen products) or food coloring. An average serving contains 25 percent of the daily requirement for vitamins and calcium.

The bad news is that the product is a thick dough, with a spread of tomato sauce so thin you can't taste it at all and a layer of cheese, but not that much. If you're really desperate, you can buy it and add more cheese, wheat germ and/or vegetables. I'd rather send out or make my own.

A package of 10 100-gr. slices costs NIS 23.95. Two family-sized pizzas of 500 gr. each NIS 29.95.

Child's play (fair)
How does one judge junk food? Do we go by the taste or the unhealthy ingredients it contains? Elite's new Adashim (Hebrew for lentils) are a kosher version of M&M's. But M&M's are better. The new Adashim are made with better-quality chocolate they used to be and have a thin and crunchy coating. In addition to the regular artificial food colorings, the yellow ones have a smiley face on them. They're not bad, taste-wise, but I'd rather serve my kids plain chocolate than chocolate covered with dubious food colorings. NIS 4.20 for 100 gr. of Adashim and NIS 2.50 for 50 gr. of regular or miniature Adashim.

Orange chocolate (fair-good)
I never have enjoyed the combination of chocolate and orange; I've even developed a

profound dislike for products like Sabra liqueur. But the flavors somehow meld together successfully in Elite's new limited edition of orange-infused Kif-Kef. (The candy bars were produced in a one-time only run of 1 million.) It is the same chocolate-covered and filled wafer as before, but orange oil was added to it. NIS 2.70 per package.

Chocolate eggs (fair-good)
If your children are into dinosaurs, or the chocolate eggs with-the-surprise-inside, they're bound to like Elite's new Jurassic Park chocolate eggs. The hollow eggs containing one of 16 different dinosaurs that appear in Spielberg's movie cost just NIS 2.65 each. (An attractive package of three sells for NIS 7.95.) My eight-year-old progeny, who loves chocolate, is hard, but tasty. She also thought it was more appropriate for boys.

Tasty Tivoli (fair-good)
If you've grown tired of Tivoli's soy products, you might like to try one of the new Tivoli products based on wheat gluten (which also is called seitan). The company's new line includes six products: Pasta Bolognese; Pasta Provençal; Pasta Neapolitan; Mejadra (rice and lentils); Country Dish; and Szechuan Dish.

We tried several. The Country Dish, lightly browned potato cubes with a scant amount of seitan, earned a fair-good rating. After I added Chinese pea pods to the Pasta Provençal it was good. The Szechuan Dish was soggy and the least successful of the three.

The concept is interesting - skillet dishes you stir-fry in 6-7 minutes. It is easy to prepare exactly the amount you need. They don't have instructions in English, however. NIS 19.95 for 700 gr.

A long way from Alaska (fair)
Chef Hayam ("Chef of the Sea") has long been trying to find its identity. Its first products were kosher shrimp, crab, calamari and scallops, all made of pollack (which sounds like a Jewish fish anyway), but these did not enjoy widespread appeal.

Then Chef Hayam went into fish schnitzel, which were better left as fish food.

In recent years it has tried to sell a substitute crabmeat product (which is used here at Japanese sushi bars) called "Alaska Pieces for Salad." They taste far more like the original than any of Chef Hayam's other products and are suitable for cold salads or cooked dishes.

The company's next attempt was salmon-flavored Alaska Pieces for Salad, which was so unlike the original in consistency that it was more crumbly than edible. Now the company is producing smoked-salmon flavored Alaska Pieces for Salad. This version tastes a lot like the original and could make a thrifty and suitable addition to pasta dishes and cold salads. It does not contain preservatives, but does have a long shelf life. Phosphates and caramel. NIS 10.99 for 200 gr.

Take a good thing and make it worse (avoid)

There's probably no family-owned company in Israel that has enjoyed the meteoric success of the Strauss family. Starting with the small dairy opened by his father, Miki Strauss has turned Strauss Dairies into a multimillion-dollar business, producing not only dairy products but also ready-made salads, chilled pastas and sauces.

One of his most successful products is Ski - a spreadable white cheese with a rich flavor and relatively low fat content (it is available in 9%, 5% and 1/2%). Ski with fruit puree next appeared on the market. It too was tasty and became popular.

According to Strauss's press release, a recent market survey revealed that the public was interested in more varied and interesting flavors for the same product and so Strauss developed new flavors. They include Ski with olives, Ski with onions and Ski with paprika. Tasters pronounced the paprika flavor "tolerable" and the other two "vile." A 250-gr. container costs NIS 4.95 and contains 5% fat, 33% of the RDA of calcium and 40% of the RDA for protein. The product also contains preservatives.

Back

By PHYLLIS GLAZER

A few years ago, one could buy rhubarb at Super Sol. This is not so anymore. Do you know why? Also why is it not possible to buy American celery?

- Ed and Rose Cogan, Rehovot

My Super Sol in Tel Aviv carries both rhubarb and American celery. Yours may have stopped carrying it due to low demand in your area. If it won't order them for you, why not try finding them at a greengrocer? In the Tel Aviv area, American celery always can be found in abundance.

A while ago, you wrote about substituting oil for margarine in cake recipes. My friend and I each understood your opinion differently. You said you would not recommend substituting the whole amount. Does this mean

that you recommend still using a portion of the margarine and substituting a portion of oil? Or did you mean that if the recipe calls for one cup of margarine you would substitute less than one cup of oil?

- SRM, Kfar Sava

Substituting oil for margarine or butter doesn't always work, so I suggest starting by substituting part of the margarine for oil. If the result is successful, try making the recipe next time with all oil. You also can try using slightly less oil than the amount of butter or margarine called for in the recipe to cut down on fat, though I never do because I don't want to disrupt the balance of the ingredients. This balance is particularly important in baking.

To substitute oil for butter or margarine: 100 gr. butter or margarine equals 1/2 cup oil.

I have long heard that flax seeds can be used as an egg substitute, but haven't a clue as to how.

- Melissa M. Ingram, Tel Aviv

The flax-seed egg substitute is used as a replacement for egg whites in recipes that require no

cooking. To make it you soak 5 Tbsp. flax seed in water for 1 hour, simmer 20 minutes and strain. Chill in the refrigerator and then beat as you would egg whites. Fold it into meringue-type desserts that require no cooking since it will not hold its shape under heat.

Another egg substitute which can be used as a replacement for egg yolk as a binder is 1 cup soy flour to 2 cups water. Mix in the blender till very thick and cook on the top of a double boiler for 1 hour. Whip in 4 Tbsp. oil and 1/2 tsp. salt with an electric mixer. It thickens when cold. Use 2-3 spoonfuls as a binder for vegetable patties and cookies in place of one egg.

Personally, I'd rather use eggs in moderation.

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Do not send stamped, self-addressed envelopes, as inquiries cannot be answered individually. Feedback also appears in The Jerusalem Post Magazine on Friday.

סוכה מן האכל

Day Tripper By Haim Shapiro

The Hagana Museum revisited

With the 50th anniversary of the state's founding coming up, no doubt even more school groups than usual will be visiting Tel Aviv's Hagana Museum. But adults will enjoy it, too.

The museum is located at the lower end of Sderot Rotenschild, in the former home of the late Hagana leader Eliahu Golomb. As a landmark, this handsome old home escaped the fate of its neighboring buildings, which were torn down to provide space for yet another bank tower.

One of the most evocative and moving areas in the museum are the two rooms on the ground floor, which have been preserved with their furnishings — an elaborate china cabinet, a simple samovar and, of course, a bookcase jammed with books.

Upstairs, the exhibits, which include audio-visual components, some of them with the option of English narration, are arranged in

chronological order, from the beginning of Jewish settlement and the self-defense organizations, until the establishment of the IDF. A particularly effective exhibit is the one devoted to the Jewish Brigade, which served as part of the British army in World War II; it utilizes photographs from the period, together with whatever movie films are available.

In exhibits relating to later periods, the films become more specifically related to the Jewish defense groups and their activities. This is especially true of the *bricha*, the period of illegal Jewish immigration by survivors of the Holocaust. Apparently, there were some involved in this work that were aware of the importance of recording their activities for posterity, even at the risk of creating incriminating evidence that might have been used by the authorities.

I cannot help but contrast the authentic film footage with the dramatized episodes, which are

shown simultaneously, and which I assume were introduced in an effort to gain the attention of the many children who visit. While the original films may be technologically inferior, their authenticity actually makes them far more dramatic than specially filmed clips.

Among the stationary exhibits, the "Hagana initiation oath" is the most impressive. The exhibit itself consists only of a small, low table, covered with a black cloth, on which a Bible and pistol lie. The accompanying text is a first-person account of how the prospective candidates waited outside, to be called into a darkened room one by one, to take the oath of allegiance.

The museum is open from Sunday through Thursday from 8 to 4. Admission is NIS 6 for adults and NIS 3 for children, youth, the elderly and students. Soldiers, police and new immigrants are admitted free. Tel. (03) 560-8624.

Weekender Travel



A recreation of Palmah soldiers on the front line

Close Encounters By Allan Rabinowitz

Atlit: A barbed-wire homecoming



Illegal Jewish immigrants were brought to the Atlit camp in trains, trucks and this original bus. It is currently parked at the entrance to the camp's museum.

It is 1946 in British Mandated Palestine. A freight train full of "illegal" Jewish immigrants, taken off the decrepit ship which had tried to run the British coastal blockade, pulls up by the gate of the huge Atlit internment camp, south of Haifa. The doors slide open, and passengers, Holocaust survivors, are met by armed guards, wire-mesh fences, barbed-wire coils.

Families are split up as the people are separated according to sex. By the time they have filed into the large disinfection center and ordered to strip, some have broken into hysterics.

The orders came from British soldiers, not Nazis, and this was far from a death camp, no matter how cruel it was to incarcerate these homeless victims yet again. But the pain was too raw, the horror too fresh. For many, the entry

into this camp was traumatic.

Today, the Illegal Immigrant Detention Camp at Atlit, where tens of thousands of Jews were welcomed to Palestine by incarceration, has been declared a national historic site, and a portion of it preserved and restored as an on-site museum. The museum comprises but a fraction of the original camp, which extended beyond today's Haifa-Tel Aviv highway. But the fences and watch towers, an old bus, several barracks and the disinfection center convey a vivid sense of the dramas that unfolded here among so many thousands of future Israelis. Site-oriented computer games are also available, as are guided tours in Hebrew, English and other languages.

The camp at Atlit had been used since 1938, when Britain imposed severe restrictions on Jewish

immigration to Palestine. Jews who tried to escape the growing Nazi threat in Europe by entering Palestine clandestinely were tossed into Atlit if caught.

During World War II, despite the fact that only a trickle of Jews arrived, the British restrictions were still applied. Those who arrived could be incarcerated in Atlit for up to two years.

After the war, however, ship after ship, group after group, tried to break the British blockade and land in Palestine, and the camp filled up with 5,000 refugees. Some of the detainees managed to obtain early release into the Yishuv, the Jewish settlement. Others waited in the camp, not knowing what the future held.

But though Atlit was intended as a detention camp, and not a transit camp, it was nevertheless

a place of transition, the first step from horror to hope, from ash to renewal. The display of photographs in the old disinfection center shows the shards and shreds of European Jewry packed between these fences, some still wearing yellow stars or even concentration-camp clothes. Yet, among the vacant stares and expressions of unfathomable suffering, we also see pictures of people singing, dancing, smiling, working, learning Hebrew.

They formed friendships with each other. Through the fences, visitors encouraged them. Hands that had performed slave labor for the Nazis were now trained to sew garments for the nearby Am factory.

But while preparing for the new lives which they hoped awaited them beyond the camp perimeter,



Families were split up as they arrived. With the horror of the Holocaust still fresh, the entry into the camp was traumatic for the immigrants.

the detainees endured harsh conditions. Tents were needed to supplement the 80 barracks. Food was sometimes inadequate. Boredom, emotional scars, uncertainty and the regimen of a prison camp took its toll.

A motley collection of survivors — Labor Zionists, Revisionists, Communists, Hasidim, atheists, selfless organizers, calculating rogues, orphaned teenagers, widowed elderly — were packed into the barracks.

Twenty beds are snugly arrayed in the reconstructed barracks where there were 40 to 70. The tin-roofed huts, hot and airless during summer and cold and damp in the winter, were locked every night. The power was turned off and a waste bucket was placed at one end of the barracks for all the inmates. At one end of the barracks there is a poignant display of messages and names carved into the wooden beams by inmates hoping to locate relatives who might have survived.

Members of the various Jewish underground organizations who were resisting the British were also imprisoned here, including thousands from the infamous "Black Sabbath" round-up in

1946. Escapes were numerous: by tunnel, fake passes, impersonation of British officers, smuggling out in laundry supply wagons and cutting through the wire.

An excellent video which is shown in the former disinfection center details how, in autumn

1945, the Palmah liberated over 200 Jews, practically the entire inmate population at the time, in a daring operation commanded by Yitzhak Rabin. The refugees were marched by night to Kibbutz Beit Oren and other settlements. When the British tried to recapture the immigrants, they withdrew after being besieged by masses of people from the area.

Once the state was established, the Atlit camp was again put to use, this time by the Jewish authorities as a transit camp for waves of immigrants. In one more twist, Atlit camp held military prisoners from the '56 and '67 wars, before it was finally abandoned in the mid-'70s.

But the preservation and vivid reconstruction of this camp, which was the way station for so many thousands of future Israelis, highlights an important and dramatic chapter in the creation of this country.

The camp, located off the Atlit turn-off on the Haifa-Tel Aviv highway, is open every day, closing early on Fridays. Groups should make advance arrangements by calling (04) 954-1980.

Allan Rabinowitz is a licensed tour guide.



A sketch of the detention camp at Atlit: Holocaust survivors were met by armed guards, wire-mesh fences and barbed-wire coils. (Shmuel Katz)

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Weekender Leisure



Winter sales: Don't be left out in the cold

By GREEN FAY CASHMAN

People with a penchant for Dorin Frankfurt fashions may have hesitated about buying items from the Fall/Winter collection because they were simply too expensive. But with the huge drop in prices during the sales season, her garments, like those of several other designers, have become affordable enough that even average wage earners can splurge on at least one outfit, if not three or four. Volume buying at sales is easier in those establishments which let you pay in three or four monthly installments, although very few stores, with Hamashbir a notable exception, allow you to spread it out over an even longer period.

Aside from its current price appeal, the D.F. label also appeals to almost anyone with an accordion figure—the kind that is constantly changing from hefty to slim and back again. Hardly any of her pieces could be described as body-skimming. Frankfurt herself likes to go with the flow. Everything she wears is fluid, and her own personal preference is translated into her creations. Some things are of course a little looser than others, but you can achieve a sleeker look from a seamed, long, roomy shirt by wearing it under a fastened bolero-style jacket.

Frankfurt doesn't believe in constriction; no one should have to suffer discomfort for the sake of being in vogue. While some of her shirts and dresses do button up to the neck, the fit is never tight. Her pants are sometimes slim-fitting, but in general, they're roomy and can easily accommodate a few extra kilos without undue strain.

There's a slight suggestion of tailoring in her menswear lines, but nothing severe. Here too, the accent is as much on comfort as on image, and the four-button velvet jackets are gorgeous.

Whereas Frankfurt's clothes have an easy, spontaneous look about

them, those of Tziona Tochtermann seem contrived and sometimes lacking in balance. A jacket with Elizabethan leg-o'-mutton sleeves doesn't sit well over a relatively narrow see-through skirt. There has to be more waist emphasis and a wide-sweeping skirt that completely balances the sleeves.

I'm not too keen on all this transparency. It's fine over a tank top or spaghetti-strap bodice, but on most people it looks terrible when there's no petticoat underneath. It detracts from the grace, the romance and the mystique. But then again, it's different strokes for different folks, and while Tochtermann may not be exactly my cup of tea, there are some who adore her bohemian tongue-in-cheek ensembles. And let's face it, they are a change from the racks of semi-classic lookalikes under different brand names which take up space in the stores.

A Tel Aviv colleague suggests that one of the reasons that the rag trade is in trouble is because pants have become almost as commonplace in women's wear as in men's. Because a pair of pants can be teamed with sweaters, shirts and jackets of varying lengths, shapes and colors, women feel less

pressured to keep renewing their closets. With all their bits and pieces and a little creativity, they can have much more fun mixing and matching than wearing a classic suit or dress, no matter how well made or expensive.

Another more obvious factor is the weather. It hasn't been cold or wet enough to warrant expenditure on real winter clothes, and before we even have a chance to look around, whatever's in the showcases now will be replaced by spring fashions.

The interesting question is what's going to happen to all that winter merchandise that wasn't sold. Will it be given to people living beneath the poverty line? Will it be dumped somewhere in the southern hemisphere? Or will it be pulled apart and recycled? There's no trouble in recycling natural fibers, but some of the synthetics will disintegrate in the process. What a waste.

While Dorin Frankfurt's clothes (top and center) have an easy and spontaneous look, those of Tziona Tochtermann (right) seem contrived and sometimes lacking in balance

Bridge Husbands and wives

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

North dealer
North-South vulnerable

North (Rosenberg)
♠ J 10 8 7 6 5 4 2
♥ 8 3 2
♦ 2
♣ 4

West (Marcus) East (Mrs. Hamman)
♠ Q ♠ 9 3
♥ K 9 ♥ A J 10 6 4
♦ K Q 9 6 5 ♦ J 8
♣ A Q J 10 3 ♣ K 9 7 2

South (Mr. Hamman)
♠ A K
♥ Q 7 5
♦ A 10 7 4 3
♣ 8 6 5

West North East South
pass pass 1 ♦
2 C 3 ♠ 4 ♥ 4 ♣

(1) Break in tempo

Opening lead: ♠ 2

The relationship between husbands and wives at the bridge table can be a delicate one. At the home-bridge level, many couples split up at the table to avoid an argumentative evening. Husband plays with husband, and wife with wife. At the tournament level, where there's more at stake, it is even more dangerous for spouses to partner each other.

But the danger of a couple entering an event with separate partners was made apparent last week in St. Louis, Missouri, the site of the American Fall Nationals. The event was the Blue Ribbon Pairs, the premier pair event of the year, and the couple who "split up" were Bob and Petra Hamman, of Dallas. The problem occurred when they had to play against each other at the table.

It goes without saying that one shouldn't play too well against one's wife or husband if one wishes to return home that night to peaceful coexistence. Nevertheless, to deliberately play poorly would not be sporting and your partner wouldn't be thrilled. There was once a famous player who, when playing against his wife, did everything he could to ensure his wife's success. On one occasion, he was on a six-person team in a match against his wife's team, so his partner wisely drove him to the racetrack that day rather than risk a debacle at the table.

In the few cases I've had playing

against my own wife, I've been careful to sit there quietly and try to follow suit in an honest fashion. Of course, all doubling of final contracts is left to my partner.

In today's deal, Hamman (South) did his best by misdefending a game contract but then fell from grace afterward by calling the director on his wife and her partner. This is a big no-no.

After two passes, Hamman opened the South hand with one diamond and West overcalled two clubs. Michael Rosenberg (North) jumped to three spades, a preemptive bid, and Mrs. Hamman (East) bid four hearts (she might have bid four clubs instead). Hamman continued to four spades and West thought for about eight seconds before doubling. Now East decided to pull the double to five clubs, and this became the final contract.

Rosenberg led the deuce of diamonds, hoping for a ruff, but Hamman didn't read it. He won the ace of diamonds and switched to the ace of spades. When North played the two of spades, South continued with the king and declarer ruffed and claimed his contract. North's two of spades was meant as a discouraging card, asking partner to return to the originally led suit, diamonds. But Hamman understood the two as a "count card." He thought North showed an odd number of spades (specifically seven) and, therefore, the king of spades would cash.

After the deal, North-South called the director because they felt that East's bid of five clubs was influenced by West's break in tempo before doubling four spades.

Rosenberg in particular is very concerned with high ethics at the table and has written extensively on the subject. For him, it was impossible to "look the other way" just because the accused was his partner's wife. No doubt, Rosenberg is not familiar with the concept of *shlom bayit*. The result of calling the director was that the contract was changed back to four spades by North, doubled, down one.

Mrs. Hamman and her partner were not going to head for this, and they got to a tournament appeals committee. Mrs. Hamman wisely did not show up to argue his case (he left it to his partner) and, to Mr. Hamman's relief, Mrs. Hamman won her appeal. The committee returned the contract to five clubs making five. At last report, the Hammans are speaking to each other.

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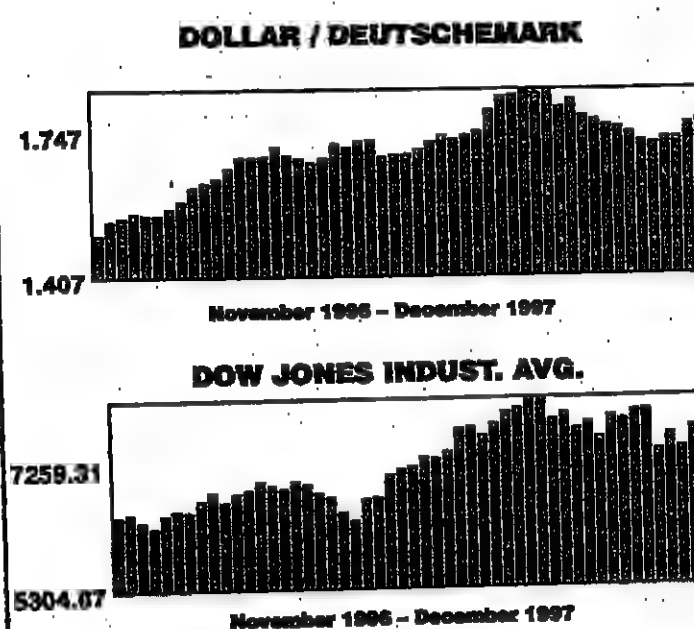
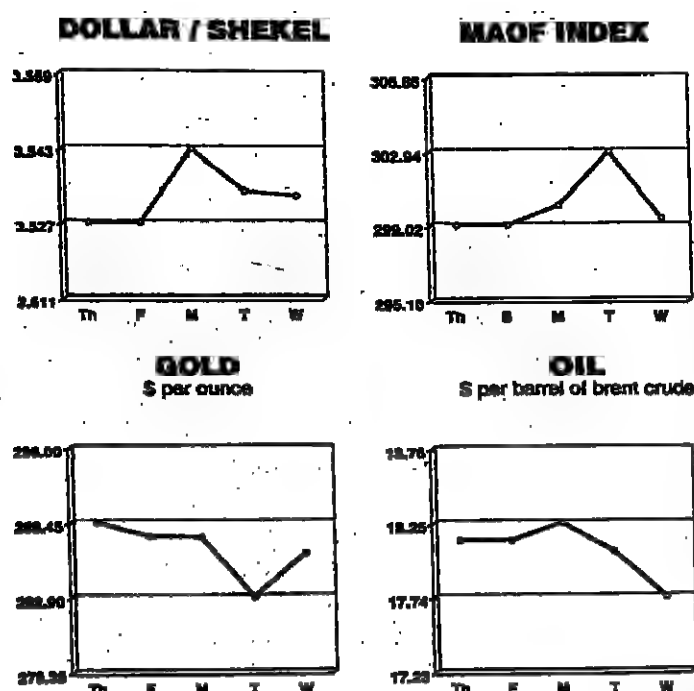
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MARKETS

in brief



State earns NIS 321m. from Leumi options

The government earned NIS 321 million from the exercising of 60 million Bank Leumi warrants, Accountant General Shai Talmon said yesterday.

This sum adds to the NIS 650m. the government raised from the offering of 10 percent of Leumi on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange in May.

Dan Gerstenfeld

MUNICIPALITY OF TEL AVIV-YAFO Public Tender No. 413/97

For the lease of a plot for building purposes, north of the Tel Aviv Medical Center

The Municipality of Tel Aviv-Yafo is planning an entrepreneurial project to be built on the plot currently serving as a parking lot and located north of the Tel Aviv Medical Center, and invites bids from contractors and/or entrepreneurs for purchase of the lease, in accordance with the tender conditions and their appendices.

The tender conditions and tender envelope are available from 25.11.97, for the sum of NIS 6,000 (non-refundable) at the offices of the Research and Development Fund on the 7th floor of the Ichilov Hospital building, Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Sunday-Thursday, 9 am to 12 noon. Purchase of tender conditions is a prerequisite for participation in the bid and in the meeting with entrepreneurs/contractors.

A meeting of entrepreneurs/contractors, where further information on the bid will be provided, will take place on Thursday, 1.1.98 at the 10 a.m. in the conference room on the management floor of the Medical Center.

Bids are to be submitted in two identical copies (on the form enclosed in Appendix C of the tender conditions), together with the tender documents signed by the bidder, in a sealed envelope bearing the tender number and name of bidder and to be sent by the tender number and delivered by hand to: Tel Aviv-Yafo Municipality Postal Services, 12th floor, room 1228, Yitzhak Rabin Square, Tel-Aviv, by Thursday, February 19, 1998 at 3 p.m.

Bids must contain a guarantee, as specified in the tender conditions, documents attesting to the bidder's ability to carry out the project, and confirmation by the tax authorities or an accountant that bidder's account books are kept as required by law, as well as all authorizations and documents required in the tender conditions.

The Municipality will not accept bids falling below the minimum amount specified in the tender conditions.

All bids will remain valid for a period of 4 months from the final submission date.

The Municipality reserves the right to refuse any bids not in accordance with the tender conditions.

The Municipality does not undertake to accept the highest, or any bid. The above is published for general information purposes only and is in no way binding on the Municipality.

Recognized and binding conditions are those published in the tender conditions and their appendices.

Roni Milo

Mayor of Tel Aviv-Yafo

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Hungarian privatization agency:

Israeli consortium ready to bid for \$1 billion Hungarian cargo project

By DAVID HARRIS
and DAN GERSTENFELD

An Israeli consortium is ready to bid for a tender to build a \$1 billion cargo terminal in Hungary, the project portfolio team manager Stefan Sellay said yesterday.

The consortium headed by Control Centers includes Israeli Aircraft Industries subsidiary Bedek, Arkia Israeli Airlines and its parent company Knafaim, according to Control Centers Vice Managing Director Shimon Yitzhaki.

The terminal, to be built on a large island in Tokol some 20 kilometers south of Budapest, will comprise an airport, port on the Danube River, a railway terminal, and truck depot. The private enterprise will be constructed on a

Hungarian military site once controlled by the Soviet Union.

The 25-square-km. area is owned by the government, which plans to sell it in 1998 by public tender as part of privatization efforts, according to Sellay, who works for the Hungarian privatization agency APV. Hungary wants the facility to be a joint military-civilian operation.

"Right now we have no competitors because this was our idea," said Arkia President and CEO Issie Borovich. "But since it's at a very early stage everything is open."

Control Centers has expressed interest in purchasing the land for \$40 million and then constructing the facility, said Sellay.

Yitzhaki, however, said yesterday that the company does not

want to buy the land, but is prepared to pay for cleaning the polluted area.

Until now, most cargo has been brought into landlocked Hungary by roads from Western Europe. A port on the Danube could save millions of dollars in transport costs and facilitate increased east-west trade via Hungary.

"This is going to be a terminal that will serve not only Hungary but all of eastern Europe," said Yitzhaki. The \$1b. figure is considerably higher than anticipated, he added, unless the hub becomes as active as Amsterdam's Schiphol.

The construction contract will probably be signed in the second half of 1998, APV director Jozsef Heffentregger said this month.

Bedek may supply maintenance

services for aircraft, said IAI spokeswoman Sylvia Beit-Halalmi.

The preparations are at the earliest stages, said Borovich. "So far it's only talks and it's too early to say whether something will actually come out of it."

Control Centers owner Motti Zisser, is considered Israel's largest investor in Hungary. The company recently sold its holding in the newly-opened Duna Plaza commercial center in Budapest to his partner Yuli Ofer.

Zisser and Red Sea Hotels President and owner Eli Popouchado last week opened a

DM30m. (\$17m.) commercial center in Csepel on the outskirts of Budapest. Additionally, the entrepreneurs have laid a cornerstone for another shopping mall in the

province of Gyor - a DM 29m. investment.

Speaking in Csepel last week, Zisser said that he intends to build 10 additional malls across eastern Europe over the next two years, and that he was negotiating for more projects in Hungary.

Hungarian Privatization Minister Judit Csiba visited Israel in June. Trade volume between the two countries totals an annual \$120 million, said Israel's economic affairs counselor in Budapest, Arie Cal. This figure includes some \$70m. in Israeli exports.

A free trade agreement between Israel and Hungary goes into effect on January 1. The agreement calls for giving Israeli goods the same tax status as those from the European Union.

Current-account deficit shrinks 29%

By DAVID HARRIS

The current-account balance of payments deficit shrank in the first nine months to \$3.786 billion from \$5.387b. in the equivalent period last year - a 29.7 percent reduction, according to figures published yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics.

The overall figure included a \$4.298b. deficit in trade of goods, down on last year's \$5.901b. in the first nine months. The services deficit increased to \$4.371b. from \$4.124b., while unilateral transfers registered \$4.864b., compared to \$4.658b. between January and September last year.

The main reason for the reduction was the relatively stable level of imports, while exports increased. Combined imports of goods and services, for example, totaled \$32.444b. last year and \$32.827b. this year, while exports increased from \$22.419b. to \$24.157.

In July, the Treasury predicted the current-account balance of payments will show a \$3.6b. deficit this year, with a reduction to \$3.1b. next year. The forecast suggests the deficit will be anywhere between \$1.5b-\$3.9b. by 2000.

Economists say that while the general picture of a declining deficit is good news, the specific reasons for the decline point to the ongoing slowdown in the economy.

The figures also show that foreign investments in the Israeli economy rose by more than 30% in January-September, totalling a record \$2.4b., compared to \$1.8b. in the same period last year. In the space of two years, foreign investments has increased 72%. On the other hand, there was a 25% drop in the volume of Israeli overseas investments, amounting to only \$700m. in January-September



Not more layoffs!

Dozens of employees of Gabor-Sabrina protest outside the Clal Building in Tel Aviv yesterday against plans to fire workers. A court has appointed a temporary receiver for the company controlled by Kitan, which employs 1,000 people at plants in Netanya, Kfar Saba, Yarka, Ma'alot, Kusra and Yanuah.

PA seeks closer economic links with Israel

Globes news service

The Palestinian Authority would like to form a regional economic bloc with Israel, said Bania, director-general of the PA Ministry of Economic Affairs and Trade, said yesterday.

"The Palestinians seek political separation and economic integration," Bania said at a meeting the Manufacturers Association hosted, "integration in the style of the European Union or EFTA."

"We in the Palestinian Authority have found that the development of economic ties between the two private sectors is already significant, especially for the development of the Palestinian economy," Bania added.

He criticized the Israeli customs authority requirement that "Israel" be marked on import documents as a destination point, even in cases when the products are headed exclusively for the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The customs authority also requires Palestinian importers to sign a guarantee that such products won't be sold in Israel.

Bania noted that the rule contravenes economic agreements signed in Paris.

He said that the PA would

retaliate unless the issue was resolved.

The PA, meanwhile, outlined a three-year development plan for 1998-2000, which it submitted on Tuesday to donor states for presentation next Sunday at a fundraising convention in Paris.

The plan calls for investments of \$3.5 billion, of which \$600 million is designated for projects in progress.

Donor states also have been asked to approve a second five-year assistance plan for the territories.

They also were asked to approve a number of financial commit-

ments for 1998, including contribution targets.

The PA submitted a proposal calling for \$900 million worth of aid for 1998. It is assessed that the donors will approve continuing aid for next year and also long-term aid to the territories, subject to changes.

The World Bank has proposed that aid be given more in the form of credit and less in cash.

The PA's three-year plan calls for the construction of an airfield in the Jericho region. Some \$200m. has been allocated for tourism, of this \$170m. for the Bethlehem 2000 project.

Ports & Railways Authority Israel Railways

Tender No. MS/424-97 - Renovation of Traction Motor Armature D77 - Annual Supply

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT

1. The Ports and Railways Authority (hereinafter, "the Authority") hereby announces that the final date for submitting proposals for participation in the above-mentioned tender has been extended to December 24, 1997 at 9 a.m.
2. Proposals that have not been placed in the tender box by this date will not be accepted for consideration by the Authority.
3. The other conditions of the tender remain unchanged.

Ports & Railways Authority Israel Railways

Tender No. MS/423-97 - Renovation of Armature Assemblies for D32 Generator - Annual Supply

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT

1. The Ports and Railways Authority (hereinafter, "the Authority") hereby announces that the final date for submitting proposals for participation in the above-mentioned tender has been extended to December 24, 1997 at 9 a.m.
2. Proposals that have not been placed in the tender box by this date will not be accepted for consideration by the Authority.
3. The other conditions of the tender remain unchanged.

Ports & Railways Authority Israel Railways

Tender No. MS/492-97 - Bogie Load Test Bench

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT

1. The Ports and Railways Authority (hereinafter, "the Authority") hereby announces that Para 3.3 in the above-mentioned tender has been corrected as follows:
"The unit must be of a type that has been supplied by the bidder to one of the railway companies, or to a manufacturer of railway equipment."
2. The final date for submitting proposals for participation in the above tender has been extended to January 28, 1998 at 9 a.m.
3. Proposals that have not been placed in the tender box by this date will not be accepted for consideration by the Authority.
4. The other conditions of the tender remain unchanged.

PORTS AND RAILWAYS AUTHORITY - ISRAEL PORTS DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION.

ASHDOD - NORTH PORT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT CONSTRUCTION OF STAGING HARBOUR

PRELIMINARY NOTICE PRE-QUALIFICATION OF MARINE CONTRACTORS.

It is anticipated that the Ports and Railways Authority ("PRA") will publish in this newspaper within 10 days a formal notice in connection with the pre-qualification of marine contractors with extensive experience in Rubble Mound Breakwaters with Rock and Concrete Armour Elements for the planned construction of the Staging Harbour.

Because of the onset of the Holiday Season and in light of the strict time limits necessitated by this urgent project, the PRA wishes to notify such experienced marine contractors:

The documents relating to the PRE-QUALIFICATION OF MARINE CONTRACTORS to enable them to be invited to tender for the Staging Harbour works will soon be made available.

Potential marine contractors, should contact Eng. Shai Valsman (Fax: +972-3-562-0044, E-Mail: pcme.ashd@netvision.net.il) at the end of next week to receive exact details concerning the documents

ISRAEL TELECOMMUNICATION CORP. LTD.

R.F.I. - 30/97/025/0 Time Announcement System

1. Bezeq wishes to receive information relevant to the introduction of a new speaking clock.
2. No undertaking is given to purchase any system, or to include any particular company among the bidders for a future tender.
3. The documentation is available in the Buying Section of the Tenders and Ordering Department, 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem (Room 607), Tel. 02-539-5426, Sunday to Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 noon.
4. Information should be submitted in an envelope, which should be marked, "Offer 30/97/025/0."
5. The information should be placed in the tenders box at 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem, not later than December 30, 1997 at 6 p.m.

PRIME 0779

Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 9.12.97

Purchase Price: 118.62

Redemption Price: 117.07

MUTUAL FUNDS

LEUMIPIA

A Member of LEUMI GROUP

TARGET 0779

Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 9.12.97

Purchase Price: 129.54

Redemption Price: 127.71

MUTUAL FUNDS

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DISCOUNT BANK

Int'l Play & Fr	50.25	-0.3125
Int'l Macintosh	26.875	-0.375
Int'l Paper	42.3125	-2.3125
Interpublic	46.25	-0.4375
ITT Corp	77.3125	-0.5625
James River Ba		
Jefferson Pk	74.375	+0.5
Johnson & J	96	+1

Kellogg	38.3125	-0.2125
KIA Insurance	20.00	-0.1875
Kmart	20.00	-0.1875
Kennametal	64.00	-0.1875
Kennametal	72.25	-0.4375
Kirby	69.1	-0.1875
Kirby-Chick	53.125	-0.0625
King World Prod	10.00	-0.0625
Knight Rider	38.3	-0.1875
Kramer	21.1675	-0.1875
LSI Logic	43.25	-0.2625
Lazard & Pict	24.0625	-0.2625
Lebanon	63.125	-0.0625
Lilly (Eli)	24.0625	-0.2625
Lubrizol	62.125	-0.0625
Lynch Ind	73.125	-0.1875
Lyons	55	-0.1875
Lyons	51.0625	-0.1875
Lyons Chem	97.875	-0.3125
Lyons Corp	97	-0.3125
Lyons Corp	43.25	-0.2625
Lyons Corp	97.125	-0.2625
Long Island L	24.0625	-0.2625

Loral Corp	22.1875	-0.3125
Louisiana Land		
Louisiana Pinc	19.125	-0.5625
Low's Co Inc	45.9375	-0.4375
Lucant Tech	78.1875	-3.6875
Lubrizol	37.25	-1.375
MCI	5.1875	-0.125
Midco Common	44.4375	-0.0625
	38.875	-0

Mapco Inc.	43,992.5	70.5
Marsden	72	0.8875
Matera & McIn.	40	0.4275
Maxwell	1	0
May	81.5	0
Mayco Corp.	47,625	-0.0475
Mayweather Corp.	40,807.5	0.4375
Mazda Inc.	42,337.5	0.075
Mayer Corp.	48,337.5	1.1325
Mayer Corp.	47,182.5	0.1875
McGraw-Hill	79,675	1.125
McKesson	107	0.1575
Mead Corp.	37,807.5	0.8175
Medco	51,212.5	2.6875
Medtronic	60,737.5	0.6875
Mellon	50,737.5	0.1875
Memoir Graphics	8,375	-0.5125
Memoir Inc.	52,737.5	0.125
Memoir Inc.	104,875	0.1875
Meredith Corp.	36.5	0.25
Meredith Corp.	75	0.2675
Merrill Lynch	40	1.125
Merrill Lynch	149,250	0.0625
Milipore	38,875	0.1875
Mintz, Sater, Auer	69.5	0

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Orly Inc.		-0.18%
Outboard Motors	\$4.9125	-0.18%
Overseas Ship.		-0.17%
Overseas Com.	\$0.2175	+0
Overseas Com.		
PPH Group		
PPG Industries	\$7.9750	-0.37%
PPG Industries	\$5.9375	-0.57%
Pacer Inc.	\$4.3475	+0.73
PacifiCorp	\$3.5625	+0.39
Pac. Enterprises	\$5.5625	+0.125
Pac. Gas & Elec.	\$8.5625	+0.125
Pac. Telephone		
Pac. Coast	\$1.8125	-0.125
Park Easton		-0.18
Parker Drilling	\$3.75	-1.000%
Parkway	\$9.25	-0.167%
Pennco (PC)	\$4.8625	-0.125
Pennco	\$4.8625	-0.125
Penn. Power Lt.	\$3.8750	+0.125
Penn. Power Lt.		
People's Energy	\$6.8675	-0.56
Pepper	\$35.4375	-0.56
Pepper		-2.375

Pharmacia & Upjohn	36,687	-0.12
Pfizer Inc.	40,000	-0.05
Pfizer Inc.	28	+0.50
Philly Monts	46,188	-0.07
Phillips 66	84	-3.75
Phillips 66	40,000	-0.80
Planner Hl Bnd	105,125	+1.18
Pioneer Biosci	87,807	+0.12
Pioneer Biosci	28,775	+0.25
Plymouth	5,875	+0.03
Polysty Corp	27,25	+0.05
Polysty Corp	27,25	+0.05
Prudential	79,625	-0.50
Prudential	79,625	-0.50
Puls Sci Exptl	20,011	+0.16
Put S&P Perf	80,375	-0.03
Quaker Oils	80,375	-0.03
Quaker Oils	80,375	-0.03
Quaker Oils	26,975	-0.18
RJR Nabisco	37,475	+0.51
Ralston Purina	55,812	-0.18
Ralston Purina	11,125	-0.13
Rank Organ ADR	11,125	-0.13

Freightliner	32,912.25	-0.83%
Raymond Toys A	7.25	+0.00%
Raymond B	81.25	+0.00%
Real Air Corp	8.00	-1.25%
Reckitt Benckiser	65.625	+0.00%
Reckitt Benckiser	60.5	+0.00%
Robt & Hess	.91	-0.57%
Robt & Hess	30.5	-0.65%
Stamps	51.375	+0.00%
Power	26.0625	-0.58%
Power Dutch	4.0	-0.50%
Public Serv	24.1875	-1.52%
Ruddick	18.25	+0.00%
Russell Corp	20.00	-0.15%
Hydr System	34.525	-0.31%
Pymer Co		
SFS Technology	66.15625	-0.18%
Safeco Corp	51	+0.00%
Safeco-Kuon	27.8675	+0.00%
St Paul	26.5625	+0.00%
St Louis Gas	25.1675	+0.00%
San Diego Corp	35.575	+0.00%
Schindler	40.0	-0.50%

North Atlantic	63,092	-0.81%
Seagren Tech	21,278	-1.15%
Seagren	52,125	-0.75%
Seas	12,753	-0.75%
Seasmatic Elec	16,439	-0.75%
Service Corp I	23,115	-0.75%
Shaw	26,020	-0.75%
Shaw Medical	63,187	-0.68%
Shaw-Tech	20,25	-0.68%
Shaw-Wyette Inc	6,112	-0.68%
Shaw-Wyette	97,75	-0.26%
Shaw Graphics	14	-0.5
Shawco Corp	27,135	-0.31%
Shawco Int'l	14	-0.31%
Shaw-Kline Bohn A	50,5	-0.08%
Shawco-Bohn A	45,239	-0.08%
Shawco-Bohn B	14,115	-0.08%
Shawco Prods	31,25	-0.08%
Shawco Corp ADR	31	-1.27%
Shawco	52,73	-0.85%
Shawco Corp	23,167	-0.12%
Shaw Int'l Eng Inc	66,087	-0.07%

Spring Inc.	51.25	+0.12
Standard Products	57.625	+0.125
Standard Steel	52.00	+0.125
Stanley Woods	64.875	-0.5
Stearns	70.00	+0.125
Stearns Techint	82.50	-1.375
Stettin Corp.	37.5	+0.0625
Stn America	37.5	+0.0625
Stn Canada	42.1875	+0.0625
Sturges	54	+0.125
Sumitomo	27.875	-0.75
Sun Microsystems	73.625	-0.625
Sunstar	40.00	+0.125
Synthetic	26.125	+1.25
Speco Corp.	46.375	-0.125
TLX Int'l Inc.	35.875	+0.5
Tru Inc.	50.75	+0.125
Tub Products	13.25	+0.125
Unidamsa		
Unidamsa Corp.	40.625	-0.875
Unidy Corp.	27.125	+0.125

Compass Radio Inc.	41,637	2,872
Memorex	34	3,328
Osborn Per	15,837	2,467
Tessco	14,818	1,189
Texas Instruments	44,575	1,037

Monsanto	13.4375	-0.25
Morgan (JP)	117.575	-5
Mormegstar Grp		-0.5825
Morton Int'l	32.6675	-2.125
Motorola Inc	50	+0.5
Murphy Oil	35.625	
Nacco Inds	112.75	-0.75
Nelco Chemical	38.75	-0.3125

National City Corp.	27.4375	+0.4375
Natl Serv Ind.	47.4375	-0.125
NatWest Bank	98.3125	+1.0625
Novartis Int.	25.3125	-0.75
Novartis	27.625	-0.9375
New England	40.3125	+0.0625
Norfolk	22.375	-0.5625

Newmont Mining	27.875	+0.875
King Mohawk	9.875	+0.188
Nicor Inc	99.8125	+0
Nike Inc	48.5	+0.0625
NL Industries	18	+0
Mobile A&M	34.75	+0.8825
Nokia	71.875	+5.375
Nordstrom	80.5	+0.3437
	51.0625	+0.3125

Novell	8.125	-0.25
Ninth State Fin	54.25	+0.125
Norfolk	113.088	+0.9375
Norwest Corp	27	-0.4375
NSI	3.25	+0
Occidental Pet	30	-0.1875
Ogden Corp	27.5	+0.25
OKA	30.75	-0.5625

Olin Corp.	28.375	+0.75
Olin Corp. Sp A	75	+0.9375
Olin Inc.	26.625	-0.5
Oncore Systems	23.4375	+0.5
Oryx Energy Co	25.75	-0.0625
Oshkosh B Corp	34.6125	-0.1625
Otford Marine		
Overseas Ship	30.375	+0.75
Overseas Comput	26.5125	+0

Pfizer Group		
PNC Financial	57.576	-0.576
PPG Industries	58.9376	-0.376
Pacer Inc	64.376	-0.76
Pacificorp	93.5626	+0
Pac Enterprises	96.5626	+0.0626
Pac Gas & Elect	98.5626	+0.126
Pac Telephn		
Pall Corp	21.8126	-0.3126

Parlor Uniting	18.75	-1.00
Parlor Handeln	49.25	-1.00
Pennoy (JC)	64.825	-0.0625
Pennoy Plus Li	22.6875	-0.1875
Pennoy	67.25	+0.125
People's Energy	36.6875	+0.125
Pepco	35.4375	-0.25
Parkin Elmer	67.3125	-2.375
Pitzer	75.8125	+1.0625

Philips Loudspeakers	25	+0.56%
Philadel Elec	46.185	+0.59%
Philips Monts	94	-3.75
Philips Elec	49.0625	-0.68%
Philips Pet	105.125	+0.12%
Pioneer Hi Bred	87.9375	+0.87%
Piney Bowles	63.75	-1.5
Polycor Mgt Sys	5.675	+0.06%

Printer & Co.	79,625	-0.56%
Pub. Sec. Exchgr.	26,171	-0.37%
Pula Ind. Par.	37.76	+0.25
Quaker Oats	52.375	-0.08%
Quiscom	62.5	+0.77%
Quiscom Corp.	25.6375	-0.81%
R.D. Mahlon	37.225	+0.58%

Rank Organ ADR	11.25	-0.15
Playtech Corp	48.125	-0.437
Playtech	54.8875	-1.31
Reebok Int	32.8125	-0.937
Reynolds Reyn A	18.75	-0.25
Reynolds Metals	61.25	-1.15
Rite Aid Corp	66	-1.25
Roadway Services	63.5625	-0.437
Rockwell Int	50.5	-0.375

Home Industries	31.375	-0.0625
Flouise	51.375	-0.8750
Rowan	35.0625	-1.9375
Royal Dutch	59.5	-0.5
Rainbowmaid	24.1875	-0.3125
Ruddick	15.25	-0.6875
Russell Corp	29.0625	-0.1875
Ryder System	34.525	-0.3125
Raynor Co		

Salsco Corp	51	+40
Safety-Mann	27.5875	+0
St Paul's Cos	84.25	+0.05
San Diego Gas	25.1875	+0
Sears Roebuck Corp	53.375	+0.025
Scherling Plough	60.0625	-0.05
Schlumberger	84.4375	-1.025
Scienc Atlanta	19.625	-0.0625
Scotco	43.0625	+0.3125

Sangam	32,125	-0.78
Seas Roebuck	45.75	-0.75
Sensormatic Elec	16,437.5	-0.06
Service Corp I	38,812.5	-0.12
Service Master	28,625	-0.69
Shared Medical		
Shell Trans	43,167.5	-0.62
Sherrin Wilkos	29.25	-0.06
Shoney's Inc	3,612.5	-0.12
Sigma-Aldrich	57.25	-0.25

Skylark Corp	27,125	+0.31
Smith Int'l	68	-5
Smoking Bch A	50.5	+6
Snap-On Tools	45,375	+0.06
Sonnet	44,6125	+8
Sonoco Prods	33.25	+0.05
Sony Corp ADR	91	-1.37
Southdown	53.75	+2.5
Southern Co	23,1875	-0.12

Southwest Bell	24,812	-0.18
Spring Lake	71,937	+0.15
Spring Lake	51,125	+0.15
Spring Corp	57,812	+0.13
Standard Prods	25.5	-0.29
Stanley Works	44,937	-0.5
Stone Container	10,897	-0.06
Storage Technol	82,125	-1.28
Svensson Corp	37.5	+0.06
Sys. Int'l		-0.37

Sundstrand	54	+0.62
Sun Microsystems	37.875	-1.75
Suntrust	73.875	-1.82
Supervalu	40	-0.43
Symantec	25.125	-1.25
Spaco Corp.	44.1875	-0.88
TJX Cos Inc.	35.875	-0.5
TWU		+0.05

Telecom	20.575	-2.55
Telecom Corp	27.125	+0.75
Telecoms de Mex	50.4375	-3.12
Temple Internl	53.25	+1.00
Teneco	41.4375	-2.00
Tenodyne	34	-1.00

[illegible]

*In local currencies

TASE drops after declines in Europe

Tel Aviv

Israeli stocks fell yesterday as investors tracked declines in New York. Analysts also said the Tel Aviv bourse followed declining markets in Europe and the Far East. Declining Israeli companies included Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, the country's biggest drugmaker, which dropped 1.5 percent to 169.03 shekels (\$47.84); Tadiran Ltd., a telecommunications and defense company, which fell 2.5 percent to 143.74, and Koor Industries Ltd., which fell 1 percent to 391. The Maof Index of 25 stocks fell 1.16 percent to 299.42. The Mishman Index fell 1.29 percent to 287.36. The Tel Aviv Continuous Trading Index fell 1.53 percent to 96.06.

Gaining shares included state-run telephone company Bezeq Ltd., up 0.5 percent to 9.35, digital voice- and data-recording equipment maker Nita Systems Ltd., up 0.7 percent to 152.1, and Investment Co. of Bank Hapoalim, up 0.5 percent to 131.

The market's weak on New York sentiment, said Daniella Finn, head of sales at Ilanot Butacha, a Tel Aviv investment firm.

Mark Meiras, managing director of Pacific Mediterranean Investments, said drops on exchanges in the Far East and Europe were also being felt. "We're just following the leader," he said.

Expectations that Israel's November consumer price index, to be announced December 15, will be lower than previously estimated offset some of the declines. Finn added, "Everybody's downgrading their CPI estimates, and there's an estimated 4.5 percent decline in M1 money supply." Finn said, "With a strong shekel pointing toward lower interest rates in months ahead, she said, 'Things are looking good.'"

Europe

UK stocks fell, with the benchmark FTSE 100 Index down for a second day, amid concern a slowdown in Asia will mean lower profits for companies around the world. Takeover talk lifted Safeway Plc, the food retailer. The FTSE 100 lost 46.4 points, or 0.9 percent, to 5130.7. The FTSE 250 index of medium-sized companies fell 12.3 points to 4769.3. The FTSE 100 Index, a combination of the two, slipped 19.3 points to 2466.

"Fear still prevails regarding Asian earnings forecasts," said John Shelley, a money manager at Aberdeen Asset Management, which has 11 billion pounds (\$18.2 billion) under management. Standard Chartered Plc, a bank that has a lot of branches in Asia, slid 35p to 72.5 as Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index fell 4.1 percent, the biggest one-day decline in more than a month. HSBC



STOCKS
Maof 299.42 ▼ 1.16%
Dow Jones 7979 ▼ 0.88%
FTSE 5130.7 ▼ 0.9%
Nikkei 16478.12 ▼ 1.25%

Holdings Plc, the parent of Hongkong Bank Ltd., fell 83p to 1,620. Incheap Plc, a distributor and marketer of products from autos to soft drinks, slid 16.5p to 186.5.

"There is a question mark against earnings growth. That's why stocks can't go much higher," said Alan Harris, a money manager at Burroughs Asset Management, which manages 40 million pounds.

Asia

Japanese stocks fell as investors reassessed the feasibility of a 10 trillion yen (\$77 billion) bank bailout proposed by a senior official of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

Some members of the LDP's fiscal committee said they opposed a plan to issue new bonds to stabilize the banking system, raising questions about whether the government can move ahead with the proposal.

"We don't know if the money will really appear or not," said Ken Tsubouchi, general manager at Nomura Asset Management Co., which handles 15 trillion yen in securities.

The benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average fell 208.39 points, or 1.25 percent, to 16,478.12. The broader Topix average of all shares on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange fell 6.91 points, or 0.55 percent, to 1241.16.

On Tuesday, the benchmark index surged 3.4 percent after Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto directed his party to consider the plan to use government money to bolster the nation's banks.

Hashimoto's move prompted some dealers to buy back shares they'd borrowed and sold when no clear plan for stabilizing the banking system was in sight.

Yesterday, some foreigners took Tuesday's rise as an opportunity to cash out of a market that's fallen 20 percent the past six months.

"Foreigners are looking in losses - cutting back on the stock they bought when the Nikkei was at 20,000," said Stephen Bronte, managing partner at Stephen Bronte Partners, a Japanese hedge fund in Tiburon, California.

Wall Street

NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks fell yesterday on Wall Street, led by technology and banking shares, as Asia's economic crisis continued to erode profits at US multinational companies.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 70.87 points to 7,978.79, having reclaimed some of its loss of more than 100. Broad market indexes were lower as well.

"We're starting to see a clearer picture of the currency crisis in Asia," said First Albany Corp.'s market strategist, Hugh Johnson. "Investors were generally worried that the crisis would affect the US economy and earnings, and now that concern is focused on individual companies."

The concern about US vulnerability to problems in Asia is coming at an inopportune time for stock investors, because valuations on Wall Street are already very high, said Larry Wachel, market strategist at Prudential Securities.

Yesterday it was J.P. Morgan and the banking sector that was feeling the brunt of Asia's difficulties. Morgan, which derived 40 percent of its revenues this year from trading, said October and November trading revenues would be soft. Its stock fell sharply, dragging those of big money-center banks like Citicorp and Chase Manhattan Corp. down with them.

Yen recovers on Japanese official's remarks

The dollar fell against the yen for a second day after a top Japanese finance official suggested the Bank of Japan may sell dollars to bolster the yen.

Haruhiko Kuroda, director general of the Finance Ministry's International Finance Bureau, said he's in contact with US and European officials about exchange rates and that Japan might act in concert with other countries to halt the yen's decline.

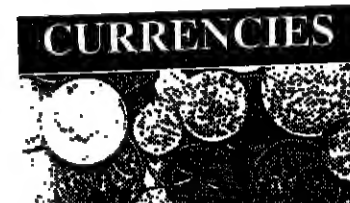
"The possibility of intervention has got everybody asking whether holding dollars is such a slam-dunk trade," said Richard Vullo,

manager of currency sales at Bayerische Hypothek and Wechsel Bank.

The dollar fell to 129.18 yen from 129.74 yen Tuesday. The dollar was little changed at 1.7860 marks from 1.7885.

Japanese officials often use verbal intervention to bring the yen closer to desired levels. Their hints that the yen was getting too strong earlier this year helped lift the dollar from an eight-month low in June.

Conversely, suggestions that the Bank of Japan might sell dollars helped knock the dollar off a 4



CURRENCIES
Dollar 3.533 ▼ 0.03%
Basket 3.7882 ▼ 1.0%
Mark 1.4802 ▼ 0.18%
Sterling 5.820 ▼ 0.12%

1/2-year high in May. While a weak yen can benefit the Japanese economy by making its exports less expensive, it also can heighten market instability.

"Disorderly markets aren't good for anyone," said Vullo. "While a weak yen might be good for them, they can't let it fall in a disorderly fashion. The last thing they need is a currency crisis. If the dollar were at 150 yen, that's bad. That's a crisis."

The dollar pared losses against the yen as a plan for helping Japan's banks met opposition from the ruling Liberal Democratic

Party. Several LDP legislators balked at a proposal to sell some \$77.5 billion in bonds to bail out Japan's debt-strapped banks and securities firms. Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto lent his support to the plan on Tuesday, making the yen rise.

Any sign that the proposal may be sidelined is bad for the yen, said Stephen Flanagan, chief currency trader at Erste Bank.

The dollar also was helped against the yen while it was pushed down against the mark by sales of marks for yen.

(Bloomberg)

Silver soars as stockpiles fall

Precious metals

Silver surged yesterday as demand from investment funds and industrial consumers for the precious metal pushed US exchange stockpiles to their lowest levels in more than 12 years. Growing use of silver for photographic films and paper and in the electronics industry comes as supplies of newly mined silver have fallen short of demand for eight years. Silver for immediate delivery in London traded at \$5.79 an ounce, a rise of 32 cents.

London gold seemed to have bottomed out after Tuesday's 18-

year low as figures out of South Africa and Australia showed a decrease in gold mining output. Gold production in South Africa fell 4.8 percent in October from the previous month, the country's Chamber of Mines said. Spot gold last traded 90 cents higher at \$284.45 an ounce.

Oil

Brent crude oil futures were little changed to higher as a larger than expected drop in US oil supplies was offset by a 1.2 percent fall in gas prices. The American Petroleum Institute reported a 5.1

COMMODITIES

million-barrel decline in crude stockpiles to 316.8 million barrels, in its weekly report released after markets closed Tuesday.

January Brent crude futures gained 2 cents to \$17.94 a barrel.

Others

Coffee rose in London amid concern that drought in Colombia and frost in Mexico will reduce supplies of higher-grade arabica beans. Colombian coffee output in the 1997 calendar year could fall as low as 11.5 million 60 kg. bags, local growers said on Tuesday.

Coffee for March delivery rose \$80 to \$1.835 a metric ton on the London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange.

Aluminum fell. An economic

slowdown in Asia has reduced demand in the region for products made with aluminum. Still, aluminum stockpiles held by the world's smelters fell 0.7 percent to 3.104 million tons at the end of October from a month earlier, the International Primary Aluminum Institute said in a monthly report.

Aluminum for three month delivery slipped \$4.50 to \$1.578 a ton on the LME. Zinc rose. Zinc stockpiles monitored by the London Metal Exchange fell 800 metric tons to 492,950 metric tons, the exchange said in its daily report. Three-month zinc climbed to \$1.134 a ton, a rise of \$6. (Bloomberg)

US bonds little changed before sales, price reports

US bonds were little changed yesterday as investors looked to reports on retail sales and producer prices later this week for more evidence strong growth isn't pushing prices higher.

"Retail sales may come out on the strong side," said Wayne Schmidt, who manages about \$350 million at Adventus Capital Management in St. Paul, Minnesota. "Even so, he said, 'Things are still good on the inflation front - that ought to give the market a little comfort.'"

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond was unchanged at 100 3/32, leaving its yield at 6.12 percent. The two-year note yield fell 3 basis points to 5.75 percent. Schmidt said he sold bonds last week as yields fell toward 6 percent, then bought Friday when yields rose following the

November jobs report. He said he'd look to sell again if yields fell back toward 6 percent.

Treasury bills and notes rose as investors added the safest securities to their portfolios before the year's end. Tumbling stocks in Asia may also have increased the allure of short-term US government debt, traders said.

"There's been a little bit of buying on the very short end of the market," said Mike Cloberty, bond strategist at Credit Suisse First Boston. Yields on three-month bills fell 2 basis points to 5.21 percent, calculated on an annualized basis if held to maturity.

US bonds rose Tuesday, snapping a three-day slump, after the Federal Reserve purchased Treasury securities and as investors speculated the economy

BONDS

will slow enough to curb inflation, which eats into bonds' fixed payments.

Now, investors are looking toward government reports on retail sales today and producer prices tomorrow for more clues on the economy and inflation. "Price numbers should be favorable" for bonds, said Steven Saslow, a trader at HSBC Securities Inc.

US 30-year T-bill yield 6.12 no change

will slow enough to curb inflation, which eats into bonds' fixed payments.

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Analysts predict the report will show prices paid by factories, farmers and other producers rose 0.1 percent both overall and when volatile food and energy prices are excluded.

Yesterday investors got evidence suggesting the economy may be cooling with the government's report on wholesale inventories for October, which unexpectedly rose 0.6 percent in the month as businesses coped with sluggish sales. Analysts were expecting inventories to be unchanged in the month after rising 1.2 percent in September.

So far, inflation hasn't picked up even in the face of robust growth and a booming jobs market. Consumer prices rose at just a 1.8 percent annual rate through October - the slowest in a decade - while falling prices of commodi-

ties such as gold also indicate inflation may not be poised to quicken.

What's more, the drop in the value of Asian currencies against the dollar, resulting from recent financial turmoil in the region, may result in more low-cost exports to the US, helping to keep down prices, analysts said.

"Asia continues to be underestimated in terms of its impact" on the US economy and financial markets, said Kevin McClintock, head of taxable fixed-income investments at Dreyfus Corp., which manages more than \$95 billion.

Asia's economic crisis may also push more American investors to buy US government debt, helping drive 30-year bond yields through 5.5 percent next year, he said.

(Bloomberg)

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Tel. 02-624-4963, 03-573-8826
Fax 02-625-9515

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS					
Patash (foreign currency deposit rates) (7.11.97)					
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS		
US dollar (\$250,000)	5.000	5.750	5.250		
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.625	5.750	5.825		
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.250	2.375	2.875		
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.625	0.625	1.000		
Yen (¥1 million yen)	—	—	—		
(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)					
Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (10.12.97)					
	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rates
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
Currency basket	3.7335	3.5141	—	—	3.780
US dollar	3.5052	3.5618	3.44	3.62	3.535
German mark	1.9579	1.9896	1.92	2.02	1.980
Pound sterling	5.7658	5.5568	5.66	5.94	5.625
French franc	0.5650	0.5945	0.57	0.61	0.590
Japanese yen (100)	2.7267	2.7707	2.67	2.81	2.740
Dutch florin	1.7376	1.7657	1.70	1.80	1.750
Swiss franc	2.4030	2.4479	2.36	2.49	2.440
Swedish krona	2.4457	0.4560	0.44	0.47	0.450
Norwegian krone	0.4624	0.4902	0.47	0.50	0.480
Denish krona	3.5142	0.5325	0.50	0.53	0.510
French mark	0.9302	0.6607	0.63	0.67	0.650
Canadian dollar	2.4542	2.5040	2.42	2.54	2.480
Australian dollar	2.2401	2.2779	2.20	2.42	2.300
S African rand	0.7175	0.7291	0.65	0.73	0.720
Belgian franc (100)	0.9489	0.9643	0.93	0.98	0.960
Austrian schilling (100)	2.7825	2.8274	2.73	2.87	2.800
Italian lire (1000)	2.3005	2.0323	1.95	2.07	2.020
Jordanian dinar	4.3403	5.0202	4.88	5.21	5.000
Egyptian pound	1.0000	1.0690	1.00	1.06	1.000
EGP	3.6730	3.6936	—	—	3.800
Irish punt	5.0878	5.1696	5.00	5.25	5.150
Spanish peseta (100)	2.3763	2.3567	2.27	2.39	2.250
*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.					
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI					

Jordan No. 3 all-time scoring leader

CHICAGO (AP) — Michael Jordan became the third-leading scorer in NBA history Tuesday night, passing Moses Malone by scoring 29 points to lead the Chicago Bulls to a 100-82 victory over the slumping New York Knicks.

Jordan reached the milestone in the first quarter by making a short bank shot over Patrick Ewing. That gave Jordan 27,411 points in 13 seasons, two more than Malone had in 19 seasons.

The only players ahead of Jordan are Wilt Chamberlain (31,419 points) and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (38,387). If Jordan goes through with his plan to retire after this season, he'll finish in the No. 3 spot.

Toni Kukoc added 20 points, going 4-for-4 from 3-point range and 6-for-6 overall, in helping the Bulls to their first four-game winning streak this season.

Patrick Ewing scored 22 points for the Knicks, who shot 36 percent in losing for the fifth time in seven games. New York has lost five straight on the road.

Wizards 120, Nets 99
Tracy Murray scored a season-high 26 points and made a career-high seven 3-pointers as Washington stayed perfect at its new arena.

Washington has won four straight overall after losing seven of eight.

Hornets 95, Raptors 82
Bobby Phillips scored 13 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter, helping visiting Charlotte extend

Toronto's franchise-record losing streak to 17 games.

Phillips drove the length of the court for a layup and a 79-72 lead with 4:58 to play, then stole Damon Stoudamire's crosscourt pass and drove for another layup and an 81-72 lead with 4:39 remaining.

Heat 97, Hawks 81
Eric Murdock came off the bench to spark visiting Miami in the fourth quarter and the Heat rolled over Atlanta in a matchup of the top two teams in the Eastern Conference.

Miami, leading the Atlantic Division, sliced through an unusually tame Atlanta defense to shoot 51.9 percent from the field, pulling away in the final period after Atlanta cut a 10-point halftime deficit to 71-66 after the third quarter.

Pistons 92, Nuggets 83
Brian Williams had 21 points and Jerome Williams led a second-quarter comeback with 12 points as Detroit handed Denver its ninth straight road loss.

The Pistons won despite hitting just 34 of 90 shots (37.8%). They redeemed themselves by shooting 23-for-31 at the free throw line and holding Denver to eight points in the second quarter.

SuperSonics 108, Timberwolves 99
Gary Payton had 21 points and 11 assists to lead Seattle to its NBA-record 26th consecutive win over Minnesota.

Detlef Schrempf scored 19 points and Hersey Hawkins

matched a season high with 18 as the Sonics finished a five-game road trip, their longest of the season, by handing Minnesota its eighth loss in 10 games.

Clippers 99, Mavericks 92
Darrick Martin scored 18 points and Lamond Murray added 17 as visiting Los Angeles won for only the fourth time this season.

Rodney Rogers scored 14 points and Lorenzen Wright had 13 points and 11 rebounds to help the Clippers hold off the Mavericks' fourth-quarter rally.

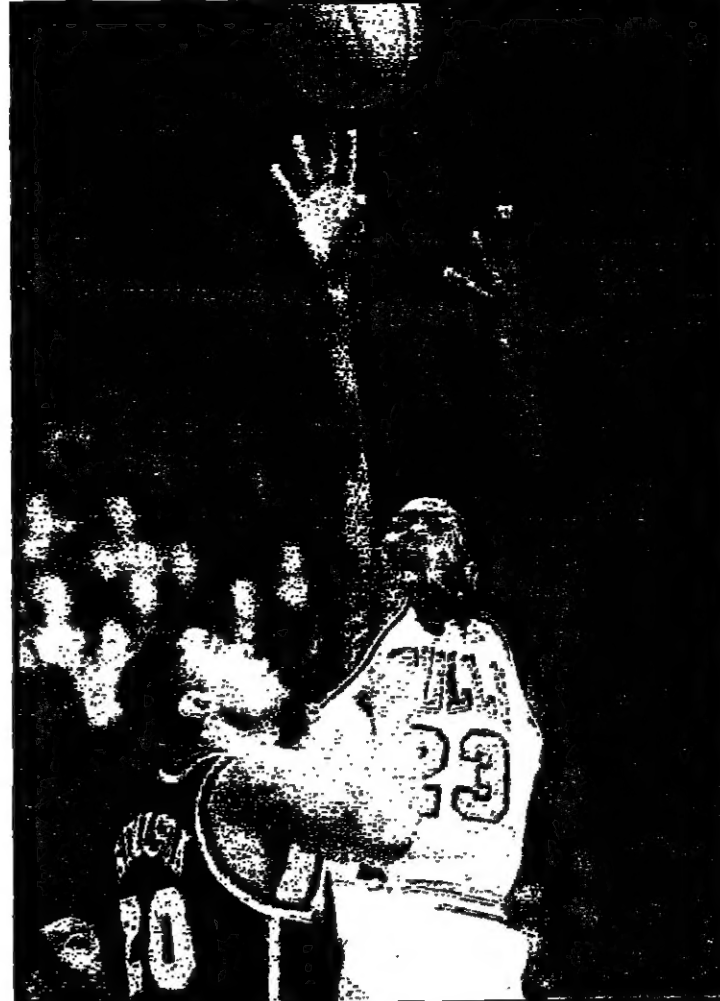
Rockets 108, Spurs 78
Clyde Drexler led six players in double figures with 17 points and 11 assists as Houston won its ninth straight.

Kevin Willis added 16 points, Mario Elie had 12 and Matt Maloney shot 4-for-4 on 3-pointers and also scored 12. Reserves Eddie Johnson and Rodrick Rhodes added 13 and 10, respectively.

Suns 107, Grizzlies 85
Cedric Ceballos scored 21 points in 23 minutes and Antonio McDyess had 20 points and nine rebounds as host Phoenix won.

Danny Manning added 14 points for the Suns, who are now 6-1 against Western Conference foes. Shafer Abdur-Rahim had 21 points for the Grizzlies, who lost their third consecutive game and sixth in the last seven.

Kings 113, Jazz 101
Corliss Williamson scored 19 of his career-high 27 points in the second half and Mitch Richmond added 24 points.



HAVE BALL, WILL SCORE — Michael Jordan shoots over Allan Houston from the New York Knicks. (Reuters)

New Jersey 24 21 18 36-91
Washington 28 28 28 84-92
NEW JERSEY (8) Gled 4-14 1-2 8, Van Horn 3-15 2-4 23, Williams 7-10 0-0 0, Kyles 7-18 1-1 7, Carter 5-12 3-8 8, Scott 5-9 0-0 0, Douglas 5-11 3-6 16, C-1 0-0 0, McDaniels 1-0 0-0 0, Totals 41-96 9-19 96
WASHINGTON (20) Webster 7-14 0-0 0, Howard 5-10 2-2 18, Davis 1-0 0-0 0, Chesney 6-10 3-4 18, Stoudamire 7-14 4-10 22, Murray 5-16 1-1 3, Grant 1-1 3-4 5, Whitely 3-5 2-2 12, Eubanks 2-2 0-0 4, Hiett 0-1 0-0 0, Wallace 0-1 0-1 0, Totals 47-92 23-51 120
Fouled out—Webster, Rebounds—New Jersey 46 (Williams 12), Washington 54 (Webster 15), Assists—New Jersey 21 (Carter 8), Washington 33 (Stoudamire 14), Total fouls—New Jersey 28, Washington 23, Technicals—Howard 2, Eubanks—Howard, A-17, 301.

Charlotte 22 24 18 64-90
Toronto 28 28 28 84-92
CHARLOTTE (6) Rice 7-15 2-4 18, Mason 5-8 1-1 5, Dwyer 4-9 3-4 12, Piles 7-15 5-7 20, Wesley 4-7 2-4 11, Gled 3-5 0-0 0, Curry 1-7 0-0 0, Armstrong 2-0 0-0 0, Reid 3-4 0-0 0, Totals 36-74 17-31 82
TORONTO (32) Wallace 5-14 3-6 15, Camby 4-14 2-10 12, Miller 2-4 1-5 7, Williams 3-4 0-0 0, Stoudamire 7-14 4-10 22, Totals 34-74 17-31 82
Fouled out—Nets, Rebounds—Charlotte 57 (Chase 14), Toronto 61 (Miller 12), Assists—Charlotte 20, Toronto 23, A-15, 325.

NEW YORK (82) O'Leary 1-4 1-2 5, Miller 5-10 2-4 12, Totals 34-74 17-31 82

LA Clippers 27 27 27 81-99
Houston 21 24 24 69-92
LA CLIPPERS (8) Murray 5-13 7-17, Rogers 5-11 2-2 14, Wright 6-8 1-2 13, Richardson 3-8 2-2 8, Pritchard 3-8 2-2 8, Martin 5-12 1-2 18, Robinson 2-4 2-4 7, Taylor 4-12 3-5 11, Totals 30-86 25-51 92
HOUSTON (20) Frazier 6-12 4-17, Scott 7-18 1-0 0, Green 5-5 0-0 0, Reeves 9-16 9-20 28, Stoudamire 7-10 0-0 0, Davis 5-9 1-2 12, Walker 3-5 1-2 7, Mullins 4-7 0-0 0, Totals 37-85 15-32 92
Fouled out—Mullins, Rebounds—Los Angeles 51 (Wright 11), Dallas 41 (Green 7), Assists—Los Angeles 14 (Rogers 9), Dallas 21 (Walker 5), Total fouls—Los Angeles 14, Dallas 25, A-8, 522.

San Antonio 28 14 21 63-78
Houston 21 24 24 69-92
SAN ANTONIO (7) Elton 5-11 0-0 0, Duncan 4-10 5-13, Robinson 6-8 2-4 14, Del Negro 5-9 0-0 0, Johnson 3-8 0-0 0, Rose 3-12 1-2 8, Alexander 1-7 2-2 5, Williams 2-6 0-0 0, Person 0-4 0-0 0, Jackson 2-10 0-0 0, Perkins 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 31-80 10-13 78
HOUSTON (20) Elton 5-11 0-0 0, Barclay 2-10 2-6 14, Wale 5-12 0-1 6, Davis 4-10 0-0 0, Hester 4-10 0-0 0, Ballard 3-8 0-0 0, Davis 3-12 1-2 8, Alexander 1-7 2-2 5, Rhodes 4-9 2-5 10, Jones 1-1 0-0 0, Harrington 1-2 1-1 3, Totals 40-78 18-34 108
Fouled out—None, Rebounds—San Antonio 32 (Duncan 10), Houston 52 (Barclay 14), Assists—San Antonio 23 (A-Johnson 6), Houston 28 (Duncan 11), Total fouls—San Antonio 19, Houston 16, Technicals—Barclay, A-10, 255.

Vancouver 24 20 27 71-85
Phoenix 21 26 21 68-99
VANCOUVER (20) Abdur-Rahim 8-20 5-6 21, Thompson 4-12 0-0 0, Reeves 5-6 0-0 0, Mack 5-8 0-0 0, Daniels 5-9 1-1 13, Edwards 4-10 0-1 2, Mayberry 0-3 0-0 0, Chasman 5-6 0-0 12, Lynch 4-14 1-3 0-0 0, Chasman 1-3 0-0 0, Hester 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 36-85 9-19 85
PHOENIX (10) CLARKSON 5-12 2-4 12, McDyess 9-15 2-4 20, Williams 2-3 0-0 0, Reid 2-4 0-0 0, Chasman 5-6 0-1 4, Totals 45-41 13-22 107
Fouled out—None, Rebounds—Vancouver 46 (Abdur-Rahim 9), Phoenix 54 (McDyess 9), Assists—Vancouver 30 (Thompson 6), Phoenix 36 (Nash 8), Total fouls—Vancouver 24, Phoenix 15, Technicals—Clarkson, Williams, A-19, 103.

Utah 24 20 27 71-85
Sacramento 21 26 21 68-99
UTAH (10) Miller 1-1 0-0 0, Watson 13-25 8-12 34, Foster 4-8 0-0 0, Hestmark 2-5 0-0 0, Stoudamire 1-5 2-3 4, Elsey 1-3 2-2 4, Carter 2-0 0-0 0, Carr 2-4 0-1 4, Russell 3-5 0-0 0, Anderson 5-6 1-2 11, Vaughn 0-2 0-0 0, Morris 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 34-70 25-43 101
SACRAMENTO (11) Williamson 8-17 11-17 27, Owens 5-9 2-3 12, Polynice 7-17 0-0 14, Richardson 7-9 0-0 2, Johnson 0-2 0-0 0, Davis 5-12 3-5 21, Funderburk 4-10 0-0 0, Stewart 0-2 1-2 1, Hurley 3-5 0-0 0, Abdul-Wahad 0-3 0-0 0, Totals 42-80 25-52 113
Fouled out—Stewart, Rebounds—Utah 54 (Miller 10), Sacramento 53 (Polynice 10), Assists—Utah 30 (Stoudamire 5), Sacramento 26 (Clarkson 8), Total fouls—Utah 34, Sacramento 26, Technicals—Miller, Stoudamire, Johnson, Abdul-Wahad, Sacramento, A-10, 255.

Flames burn Islanders

UNIONDALE, New York (AP) — A power-play goal by German Titov with 1:7 seconds left in the first period helped the Calgary Flames capture their second road victory of the season, a 3-1 victory over the New York Islanders on Tuesday.

Rick Tabaracci made 20 saves for Calgary, whose other road victory was 2-1 at Florida on November 20. Jarome Iginla and Theoren Fleury also scored for Calgary, which snapped a three-game losing streak.

Red Wings 7, Canucks 5
Kirk Maltby scored his first two goals of the season, including a deflection off his chest, and host Detroit handed Vancouver its

fourth straight defeat. Steve Yzerman reached another career milestone with a goal and an assist, while Larry Murphy also had a goal and an assist for the Red Wings. Vyacheslav Kozlov, Brent Gilchrist and Darren McCarty scored Detroit's other goals.

Penguins 2, Kings 1
Rob Brown scored the game-winning goal and Tom Barrasso made 23 saves for his fourth consecutive road victory as visiting Pittsburgh won. Barrasso lost his bid for a fourth straight shutout win when Vladimir Tsybakov scored the Kings' lone goal in the second period. It was the first goal Barrasso had allowed in his last 218 minutes on the road.

Calgary 2 0 1-3
New York Islanders 1 0 0-3
First Period—1. New York, Baran 10 (Pachal, Smolinski, Scott), 2. Calgary, Titov 1 (Fleury, Campbell, 5:41), 3. Calgary, Fleury 10 (Fleury, 18:58), Second Period—No scoring, Third Period—Calgary, Fleury 10 (Fleury, 18:58), Shots on goal—Calgary 11-3-7, New York 9-6-21, Goalsies—Calgary, Tabaracci, New York, Sako, A-9, 251.

Vancouver 2 2 1-5
Detroit 1 0 0-3
First Period—1. Vancouver, Gosses 3 (Mason, Jogi, 10:52), 2. Detroit, Maltby 1 (Gosses, 12:52), Second Period—1. Detroit, Murphy 1 (Jagi, 18:58), 2. Vancouver, Gosses 3 (Mason, Jogi, 18:58), Third Period—No scoring, Shots on goal—Vancouver 7-13-22, Detroit 21-14-44, Goalsies—Vancouver, McLean, Detroit, Hovinen, A-19, 983.

Pittsburgh 2 1 1-2
Los Angeles 1 0 0-3
First Period—1. Pittsburgh, Brown 1 (Brown, Jogi, 10:52), 2. Second Period—2. Pittsburgh, Jogi 1 (Jagi, 18:58), 3. Los Angeles, Tsybakov 1 (Tsybakov, 18:58), Third Period—No scoring, Shots on goal—Pittsburgh 10-14-26, Los Angeles 3-11-10, Goalsies—Pittsburgh, Barrasso, Los Angeles, Peck, A-12, 055.

NHL standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE							WESTERN CONFERENCE						
Atlantic Division							Central Division						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA		W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	19	9	8	38	82	51	Dallas	28	8	4	44	103	70
Philadelphia	15	9	6	34	84	70	Detroit	19	7	5	43	105	74
Washington	15	11	4	34	79	80	St. Louis	19	9	3	41	94	69
N.Y. Rangers	9	12	11	29	83	87	Phoenix	13	14	3	29	80	84
N.Y. Islanders	12	14	4	28	82	82	Chicago	10	14	5	25	63	74
Florida	9	15	5	23	70	87	Toronto	10	14	4	24	63	76
Tampa Bay	5	19	4	14	54	95							
Northeast Division							Pacific Division						
Pittsburgh	17	10	5	39	90	76	Colorado	16	7	8	40	94	79
Montreal	17	10	4	38	94	73	Los Angeles	12	13	5	29	90	85
Boston	13	12	5	31	74	79	Anaheim	11	14	4	28	70	88
Ottawa	13	13	4	30	78	72	Edmonton	9	15	7	25	73	94
Carolina	12	14	5	29	83	86	San Jose	10	10	2	22	76	93
Buffalo	9	13	6	24	62	77	Vancouver	9	14	2	20	69	111
							Calgary	7	18	7	21	80	100

NBA standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE					WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division					Midwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	14	5	.737	—	Houston	12	5	.705	—
Ottawa	14	7	.667	1	Utah	12	8	.600	1
New Jersey	11	9	.550	3	San Antonio	10	10	.500	3
New York	11	9	.550	3	Houston	8	11	.421	5
Washington	9	11	.450	5	Vancouver	7	14	.333	7
Boston	7	11	.389	6	Dallas	5	14	.263	8
Philadelphia	5	12	.294	8	Denver	2	16	.111	10
Central Division					Pacific Division				
Atlanta	15	4	.789	—	LA Lakers	15	4	.789	—
Cleveland	12	6	.667	2	Seattle	14	5	.737	1
Chicago	12	7	.632	3	Phoenix	12	5	.705	2
Charlotte	11	7	.611	3	Portland	12	8	.600	3
Indiana	11	7	.611	3	Sacramento	12	8	.600	3
Memphis	11	8	.579	4	LA Clippers	12	8	.600	3
San Antonio	11	8	.579	4	Golden State	12	8	.600	3
Toronto	1	19	.050	14					

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CRITICS' CHOICE

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Celloist Zvi Plesser and pianist Daniel Gortler perform sonatas by Beethoven and Shostakovich and works by Janacek and Mendelssohn Saturday (8:30) at the Tel Aviv Museum. Soprano Larisa Teteyev and mezzo-soprano Susanna Poretsky sing music by Dvorak, while Bracha Eden and Alexander Tamir play the composer's music for two pianos. Shelly Yehimovich presents 'Press Conference' on Channel 1 at 10:30 p.m. Saturday (11 a.m.) at the Targ Centre in Ein Karem, Jerusalem.

JAZZ

HELEN KAYE

Jazz enthusiasts are excited about the arrival of trombonists Wyllie Gordon and Ron Westry. The two have been playing together for years, and Gordon has been Wynton Marsalis's right hand trombone practically forever. It's the second of the Jazz at the Museum series. At the Tel Aviv Museum tonight at 9 and tomorrow at 9:30 p.m.

And it's more jazz, cutting-edge type, in *Down Town Music*, a new series which features some of New York's most innovative jazz musicians. The first guest is drummer Bobby Previtt and his trio with *Lata for Travelers*, a live reprise of his most recent CD. Tonight at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem at 8:30 p.m., tomorrow at the Haifa Technion auditorium, and Saturday at Tel Aviv's

Enay Center, both at 9 p.m.

DANCE

HELEN KAYE

A treat for the whole family: the Israel Ballet dances to Prokofiev's lovely music in *Cinderella* with choreography by Berta Yampolsky. At the Jerusalem Theater today at 5 p.m.

TELEVISION

ELANA CHIPMAN

The most talked-about new current affairs/talk show on TV is *Press Conference*, hosted by Shelly Yehimovich, the aggressive, social crusading, nononsense radio journalist who has enjoyed much success and popularity with her daily show on Army Radio. On her new TV program, on Channel 1, at 10:30 p.m., she highlights the main stories of the week, analyzing them and offering critique. Each week she will be joined by a guest from the media world.

TV

CHANNEL 1

6:30 News flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Peace and War
8:30 Crooked Cafe
9:00 Reading
9:25 English
9:40 Ecology
10:00 Programs for the very young
11:00 Entz Yisrael
11:30 Geography
12:00 Social Sciences
12:30 Cartoons
12:00 Musical Jingles: Pictures at an Exhibition
15:05 In the Know

CHANNEL 1

15:30 Pink Panther
15:55 Super Ben
16:00 Famous Five
16:25 Super Ben
16:30 The Mask
16:50 A New Evening
17:34 Click & Zap
18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS

18:30 Meeting Point
19:00 News

HEBREW PROGRAMS

19:30 News flash
19:31 Cosby
20:00 News
20:05 Basketball - European Championships
20:10 El Al
20:15 El Al
20:20 Press Conference
20:30 El Al
20:35 El Al
20:40 El Al
20:45 El Al
20:50 El Al
20:55 El Al
21:00 El Al

CHANNEL 2

6:00 Today's programs
6:30 Animal Fun
7:00 The Morning
8:00 Riva Michaeli
8:55 Senora
10:47 Dynasty
11:45 The Perfume
12:00 News
12:30 Golem and the Captain
13:00 The Adventures of the Bush Patrol
13:30 Everything's Open
14:00 Home and Away
14:30 The Bush Patrol
15:00 The Flintstones
15:25 Major Dad
16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:50 Different Driving
17:00 Five with Fast
17:30 Open Cards
18:00 Roseanne
18:35 Touched by Angels
19:25 Spin City
20:00 News
20:30 Wheel of Fortune
21:00 Lethal Weapon
21:30 To Die For
22:00 Sunset Beach
22:30 Love Story
23:00 The Young and the Restless
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24:00 News
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FAMILY CHANNEL

7:00 Good Evening with Guy Pines (pt)
7:30 Love Story with Yossi Silebi (pt)
8:00 Sunset Beach
8:30 One Life to Live
9:00 The Young and the Restless
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JORDAN TV

14:30 Holy Koran
15:00 New Kids on the Block
15:30 Little Fairy Tale
16:00 America's Funniest Home Videos
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18:30 The Boy from Andromeda
19:00 La France aux 1000 Villages
19:30 Vatel
20:00 Le Journal
20:15 La Dessous des Caries
20:30 News headlines
20:35 Trivial Pursuits
20:40 Parent Hood
20:45 Lois and Clark
21:10 Oprah Winfrey
22:00 News in English
22:30 Movie
23:00 Step by Step

MIDDLE EAST TV

7:00 TV Shop
14:30 Body Electric
15:00 Basic Training
16:30 The 700 Club
16:50 Larry King
17:00 The Magic School Bus
20:00 Popeye
20:45 Sonic the Hedgehog
21:10 Beakman's World
21:35 Saved by the Bell
21:50 Showbiz
22:00 World News Tonight (Arabic)
22:05 Rhoda
22:20 Lou Grant
22:25 Hill Street Blues
22:30 The 700 Club
23:30 CNN News

CABLE

16:00 News
16:15 A Man and His World
17:00 From Day to Day
17:30 The Tyran
18:00 News in Arabic
18:30 News in Russian
20:00 News
20:45 The Seven Samurai (Japanese, 1954, 135 mins.)
21:00 A Man and His World
21:30 The Tyran
22:00 News in Arabic
22:30 The Tyran
23:00 News in Arabic
23:30 The Tyran
24:00 News in Arabic

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15:30 Echo Point
16:00 Scientific Eye
17:00 Mariana - Arabic
17:30 Mariana
18:00 Desires
18:30 Art Workshop
19:00 Peace and War
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PRIME TIME TV

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19:30 News flash Cosby	News	Beverly Hills 90210	Lapidankner	In Defense of a Married Man	Beverly Hills 90210	Human Nature	
20:00 News	Wheel of Fortune	Lapidankner	Law and Order	In Defense of a Married Man	Beverly Hills 90210	Glass Jungle	
20:30 Basketball - Macabbi Tel Aviv vs. El Al	Lethal Weapon	Lapidankner	Murphy Brown	In Defense of a Married Man	Beverly Hills 90210	Mark Twain	
21:00	To Die For	Lapidankner	Yair Lapid Live at 10	In Defense of a Married Man	Beverly Hills 90210		
21:30	Press Conference	Lapidankner	Love Story with Yossi Silebi	In Defense of a Married Man	Beverly Hills 90210		
22:00	Where Were We?	Lapidankner	Seinfeld	In Defense of a Married Man	Beverly Hills 90210		

SECOND SHOWING (9)

22:10 Il Maestro
1989 - an Italian expatriate conductor returns home after many years to conduct a production of Verdi's *Il Maestro*. With Malcolm Macdonald and Charles Aznavour. Directed by Mark Ronson.
22:40 The Seven Samurai (Japanese, 1954, 135 mins.)
Ava Kurosawa's classic about a small village which hires professional warriors for protection against bandits. With Toshirō Mifune and Takashi Shimura.
23:00 News

CHANNEL 8

8:00 Open University
8:05 Seekers of the Lost Treasures
8:55 Mysteries, Magic, and the Supernatural
9:00 Wonders of the World
9:05 Wonders of the World
9:10 Wonders of the World
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Inside
Jordan
third best
all-time
scorer
Page 18

Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

'Venables
didn't
prepare us
properly'

SYDNEY (AP) — Terry Venables' failed campaign to get Australia a berth in the soccer World Cup was criticized yesterday by veteran player Graham Arnold, who quit when the team bowed out to Iran.

Australia was level with Iran at 3-3 over two matches to decide the 32nd and final qualifying spot last month but missed out on the away goals rule.

Arnold, who came on as a substitute in Melbourne for his last charge of four World Cup campaigns, said Venables must become a full-time Australian based coach if he wants success with the team.

"I've been in four World Cup campaigns and the preparation we had this time was definitely the worst. We can't let it happen again," Arnold told the *Sydney Morning Herald* newspaper.

"It might be harsh but the fact is we failed badly. We should have been going to the World Cup. We lost out against a good team, but not a great one. And it wasn't all about bad luck either."

Arnold said Venables should not be reappointed as Socceroos coach when his current contract expires unless he can make a full commitment to the national team.

TURIN, Italy — Filippo Inzaghi's header with six minutes left gave Juventus of Turin a 1-0 win over Manchester United Wednesday in Champions League play yesterday.

Needing a victory to have a chance at reaching the quarter-finals, the 1996 Champions Cup finalist and last season's runner-up struggled all match to beat Manchester's Danish 'keeper Peter Schmeichel before more than 55,000 fans at its Delle Alpi Stadium.

The hosts had to do without suspended top forward Alessandro Del Piero, and the makeshift strikeforce of Inzaghi and Uruguayan Daniel Fonseca were not always in synch.

French midfielder Zinedine Zidane, shadowed all match by Manchester's Ronny Johnsen of Norway, directed the hosts' attack and lofted the well-placed cross that Inzaghi nodded home for the winner in the 84th.

Manchester was already assured of a quarter-final spot heading into yesterday's game, having clinched first place in Group B by winning its first five games.

Juventus finished second in the group with a 4-0-2 record and 12 points.

Sparta Prague 0

Borussia Dortmund 3

Borussia Dortmund, the defending champion, beat Sparta to storm into the quarter-finals of the Champions Cup on a high note.

Already assured of winning Group A of the Champions League, Dortmund finished the round-robin stage of the competition with a 5-1 record.

Bayer Leverkusen 2

AS Monaco 2

Monaco scored two late goals to clinch a draw at Bayer Leverkusen, a result that sent both teams to the quarter-finals of the Champions Cup.

Both teams finished Group F with 13 points, Monaco going through as group winner with a better goal difference and Leverkusen as the best second-placed team.

After goals by Stefan Beinlich and Erik Meijer had secured Leverkusen a two-goal lead, Monaco struck back late in the game with goals from Christophe



TANGLED UP — Manchester United's Karel Poborsky (left) fights with Juventus's Ciro Ferrara in Turin yesterday.

(Reuters)

Figini and Thierry Henry.

It took 20 minutes for either team to create a chance and it was Leverkusen that took the first shot at the goal, with Monaco goalkeeper Fabien Barthez tipping over a long-range shot by Jens Nowotny.

Real Madrid 4, Porto 0

Brazilian set-piece specialist Roberto Carlos led the celebrations as Real Madrid won a place in the European Cup quarter-finals with a crushing win.

Davor Suker scored twice, and Fernando Hierro once, but the star

of the night for the six-times champions was Roberto Carlos, who curled in a superb free-kick just after the break.

The game was just five minutes old when Fernando Hierro out-jumped the visitors' defense to head home a Roberto Carlos cor-

ner. Suker added the second with a fine shot on the half hour and Roberto Carlos the third in the 50th minute. Suker was brought down in the area midway through the second half and rounded off his own fine performance by scoring

from the spot. (AP, Reuters)

Other results: Kosice 0, Feyenoord 1; Sporting Lisbon 2, Lierse 1; Paris St. Germain 2, Besiktas 1; Olympiakos Piraeus 2, Rosenborg; Trondheim 2; Newcastle 2, Dynamo Kiev 0.

Graf enters Australian Open

MELBOURNE (AP) — Injured tennis star Steffi Graf has entered next month's Australian Open and is expected to relaunch her career at the year's opening Grand Slam event.

Graf last played on June 3 before having surgery for a knee injury. Her ranking has slipped to No. 28 and she has canceled several planned comebacks in the past two months.

"Unfortunately, I've fallen a little behind in my rehabilitation and will be unable to compete in Baltimore," Graf said in a statement ahead of the November 25 Tennis Challenge in Baltimore.

Entries closed yesterday for the Australian Open.

Graf, a four-time winner of the Australian Open, joins defending champion Martina Hingis, four-time winner Monica Seles and American Venus Williams, the US Open finalist, as major draw cards for the tournament starting January 19.

Nine of the women's world top 10 have entered, with Jana Novotna of the Czech republic opting not to play.

The cutoff ranking for players to gain an automatic acceptance into the main draw of the tournament is 113 this year, a record according to officials.

The men's cutoff is 107 and all of the men's top 10 players will contest the event.

By BRIAN FREEMAN

It was not until last season that Maccabi Tel Aviv faced Efes Pilsen for the first time in the Euro League, but it has not taken long for quite a rivalry to develop, especially since Maccabi's hopes to return to the elite of European basketball must go through the Turkish champions.

Efes Pilsen defeated the Israelis in a fierce best-of-three Final 16 series last season and has already beaten Maccabi again this season, an 81-69 victory in Istanbul in which the Turks roared back from an 18-point deficit.

Tonight at Yad Eliahu, Maccabi (4-4) can clinch a top-three spot in Group A if it defeats Efes (4-4), no matter what happens in next week's final games of the

Euro League's first stage.

This means Maccabi would earn the right to face the bottom three clubs in the next round and face a much easier path to the Final 16.

Maccabi put itself in this position with impressive victories over Real Madrid and CSKA Moscow in its last two European contests, while Pilsen has lost three of its last four games since defeating the Israelis.

But that momentum in Maccabi's favor has dissipated somewhat, due to the three-week break from Euro League play for national team competition and Tel Aviv's embarrassing league loss on Sunday to Maccabi Ramat Gan.

Meanwhile, Efes was able to rest superstar Petar Naumoski in

a league victory this week, which kept it tied for first place with a 10-3 record.

Naumoski is one of Europe's best players — and a thorn in Maccabi's side. He burned the Israelis for 32 points in the decisive Game 3 last season and did it again as the driving force behind the Turk's comeback win earlier this season with 28 points and 7 assists.

He enters tonight's contest eighth in the Euro League with a 19.0 scoring average, first in assists with 4.6 and third in free-throw percentage at 89.8 percent.

He is by no means the entire Pilsen team, however, as Maccabi found out in its earlier loss, when the Turk's smothering defense limited it to only 36 points in the final 26 minutes.

Although foreigner Rod Sellers (7.8 points) has been such a disappointment that Pilsen is considering dumping him, Mirsad Turkan (13.6 points, 6.6 rebounds) and Brian Howard (11.3 points) have been solid contributors.

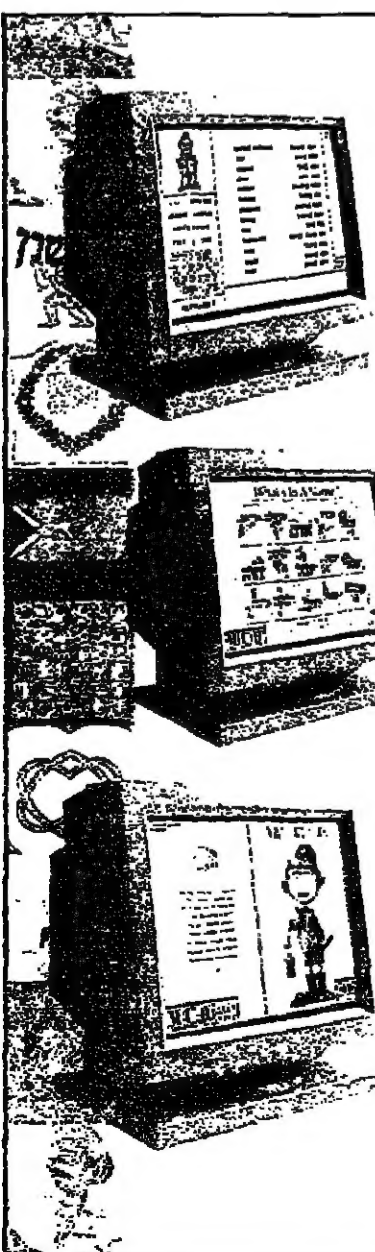
Maccabi hopes the expected capacity crowd will turn the tide in its favor and that EuroLeague leading scorer Oded Katash (23.6 points a game) will have fully recovered from the flu he suffered from this week. Maccabi also needs to avoid getting into the early foul trouble it encountered in Istanbul, which the Turks exploited to play more aggressively during their comeback.

The game is scheduled to be broadcast live on Channel 1 at 8:50 p.m.

In Group C action, Hapoel Jerusalem hosts Pau-Orthez, which defeated Hapoel 73-65 in their first meeting this season, in an attempt to climb out of last place. That game is scheduled to be broadcast live on Channel 5 at 7 p.m.

EuroLeague Group A			
	W	L	Pts.
Olympique	4	2	14
Maccabi Tel Aviv	4	4	12
CSKA Moscow	4	4	12
Eis Pilsen	4	4	12
Real Madrid	3	5	11
Limoges	3	5	11

EuroLeague Group C			
	W	L	Pts.
Knar Bologna	7	1	15
Banvit	5	3	13
Partizan Belgrade	4	4	12
Uls-Oster	3	5	11
Hapoel Jerusalem	2	6	10



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